

Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead teachers is an important element in a broader teacher quality strategy that develops, recognises and supports excellent practitioners.



Certification

A national approach to voluntary certification based on the National Professional Standards for Teachers will ensure that teachers, in every system and sector, have access to a rigorous and transparent process that recognises Highly Accomplished and Lead teachers and is portable throughout Australia.



Purpose

- recognise and promote quality teaching
- opportunity for teachers to reflect on practice
- reliable indication of quality teaching used to identify, recognise and/or reward Highly Accomplished and Lead teachers



Support for implementation

- support and guidance for teachers
- resources, tools and templates
- examples of effective teacher practice
- examples of evidencing the Standards
- guide to certification
- online self-assessment tool
- training for assessors
- web presence to stimulate engagement
- online communities of practice

Timeframes for development and implementation

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — research, mapping and analysis of existing practices nationally and internationally, and extensive national consultation — development of certification principles and major features proposal — endorsement for consultation by Ministers – October |
| 2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — ongoing national consultation — endorsement by Education Ministers – April — establishment of certifying authorities by systems and sectors — development of materials to support implementation — transition from existing systems of certification/accreditation |
| 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — implementation of national approach to certification |
| 2014 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — certified teachers eligible for Rewards for Great Teachers Australian Government one-off payment |

Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers

Certification enhances the professionalism of teachers, enabling them to gain recognition for the quality of their teaching and progress their careers while remaining in the classroom.



Benefits for teachers

- recognition of professional achievement
- national recognition and portability
- constructive feedback on performance
- enhanced professional satisfaction
- access to networks and communities of practice
- enhanced collaboration and support from colleagues
- increased profile of the profession



Benefits for school leaders



- retain effective teachers in the classroom and improve outcomes for students
- promote excellence
- source of external feedback for staff
- increased collaboration of staff within and across schools
- shared discourse on effective teaching
- enhanced performance culture
- increased modelling and leading by teachers




Rewards for great teachers

The Australian Government announced its intention to reward certified teachers through a one-off reward payment. The first reward payments are planned to be provided in 2014 based on teacher performance in 2013. Highly Accomplished teachers will be rewarded with \$7,500 and Lead teachers \$10,000.

School Education Minister Peter Garrett

For more information

-  aitsl.edu.au
-  certification@aitsl.edu.au

-  facebook.com/aitsl
-  twitter.com/aitsl
-  youtube.com/aitsleduau

AITSL is funded by the Australian Government

