



Initial Teacher Education Bulletin

including Official Notices

April 2009 Vol 1 No 1

The *ITE Bulletin* is published on the web and distributed by email to Faculty Deans/ Heads of Schools of Education, for distribution to ALL TEACHER EDUCATORS and ADMINISTRATION STAFF working with initial teacher education programs, including those in Central Administration and in other Faculties where relevant.

The *ITE Bulletin* is the new title for the document setting out Official Notices and information for teacher education institutions. The *ITE Bulletin* will update you on developments and current issues in initial teacher education.

Previously such advice was published in ITE Newsletters to Deans in February 2008, April 2008 and July 2008.

Official Notices appearing in the *ITE Bulletin* are numbered with the ITE prefix, a number for the Official Notice and the year date, eg ITE 01/09, ITE 02/09. In this *ITE Bulletin* ITE 01/09 to ITE 08/09 are Official Notices.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

ITE 01/09

Minister Approved Programs

In February 2009 the Minister for Education and Training under the *Institute of Teachers Act 2004* approved thirty Institute-assessed new or revised initial teacher education programs for up to five years.

The list of approved programs is on the Institute website at <http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/Approved-Programs.html> (March 2009) and updated regularly.

ITE 02/09

Revision of Transition Arrangements for Approval of Programs

In February 2009 the Minister for Education and Training approved transition arrangements for forty initial teacher education programs with a range of conditions where programs are in the process of assessment. These conditions were sent to Deans of Education.

The relevant approvals expire on 31 December 2009.

Where the Institute is awaiting a Response from an institution the Dean has been notified of a date for submission. Completion is required as soon as possible.

Programs with transition arrangements and conditions is at <http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/Approved-Programs.html> (March 2009).

ITE 03/09

Supplementary Documentation Professional Experience

Following stakeholder consultation and endorsement by the Institute's Quality Teaching Council, Policy Supplementary Documentation on Professional Experience has been approved by the Minister on 27 March 2009. This is Document 6 on the Institute website at http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/ITE_Application-for-Approval.html

ITE 04/09

Notification of Changes to a Program

The Institute requires notification of any changes to an approved program as per Section 3.3 Application for Approval in the *Policy and Procedures for Approval of Initial Teacher Education Programs* as outlined below:

'All programs are approved for a maximum of 5 years. During this period changes may impact on an approved program. Any changes that impact substantially on the inputs, processes and outcomes or structure of the program must be notified to the Institute. Where the changes are significant enough to require re-approval of the program, the documentary requirements for the re-approval process will be discussed between the TEI and the Manager Initial Teacher Education or another Institute staff member.'

ITE 05/09

Submission of Revised/New Programs by 30 APRIL 2009 for Approval for 2010

A program submitted for approval in 2009, for delivery from 1 January 2010 must:

- i. implement all Institute requirements
- ii. use the application form and other required documentation provided in the *Supplementary Documentation*
- iii. be submitted for approval by 30 April of the year before delivery.

ITE 06/09

Reflecting the Purpose of Program Approval

The Institute notes that in some teacher education institutions a strong philosophy or faith underpins the design and delivery of initial teacher education. Where this is the case, the institution should take care to ensure that a program submission reflects the purpose of program approval, that is, to clearly demonstrate how graduates will meet the Professional Teaching Standards for accreditation and therefore be eligible to teach in any NSW school.

ITE 07/09

Provision of Statement of Eligibility to Teach

From 2009 teacher education institutions (TEI) are required to supply data on students who are expected to graduate from Institute-approved programs in each year.

This data exchange between institutions and the Institute will establish the concept of a 'one stop shop' in the assessment of graduate teacher qualifications for employment and accreditation (as advised in the *Update for Teacher Educators* distributed to Deans in July 2008).

This data will enable a *Statement of Eligibility for Accreditation to Teach* in a NSW school to be prepared for the Graduate Teacher, and for prospective employers, and provide specific advice about what subjects graduates will be approved to teach with the NSW Department of Education and Training.

Initial data collection will be required on a Data Exchange Template by COB Thursday 30 April 2009.

The template is an Excel spreadsheet available online at http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/ITE_Program-Requirements.html

A further request for data will be sent in September/October to confirm that students are 'on track' to complete requirements and graduate.

The Data Exchange Template is a list of the columns the Institute requires to be populated with data on individual students. It is necessary for the TEI to export this data to an Excel spreadsheet and email it by **30 April 2009** to the Manager of Teacher Accreditation Eligibility at david.mcgrath@nswteachers.nsw.edu.au

Data fields

- Teacher Education Institution (provider) name
- Initial Teacher Education program title, code and type
- Student first name, middle name and last name
- Student date of birth (unique identifier)
- Student commencement date
- Student anticipated completion date
- Bachelor degree title and institution
- Teaching area/s (as per subject content requirements)

This information about the data exchange is available at http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/ITE_Program-Requirements.html.

ITE 08/09

Changes and Additions to the Institute Website

Section 'Initial Teacher Education' - website documents in the following folders have been updated at <http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/Initial-Teacher-Education.html>

- Initial Teacher Education Committee - new member added
- ITEC Meeting Updates 2008 and 2009 - meeting notes updated
- ITE Bulletins - NEW, as emailed to Deans
- Approved Programs - program approvals updated March 2009
- Program Requirements
 - NEW Data Exchange Template & Advice for Statement of Eligibility for Accreditation to Teach
 - NEW Supplementary Documentation Professional Experience
- Application for Approval
 - Document 1 - revised
 - Document 5 Subject Content Requirements - revised Secondary Languages p40 Column 4 to read 'A major in a language including study of the spoken and written language'
 - Document 5a - deleted
 - Documents 5c - NEW Summary secondary SCR
 - Documents 5d - NEW Summary of primary SCR
 - Document 6 Professional Experience
 - Document 8 - NEW advice on additional Sources of Evidence document for Mandatory Areas
 - Document 9a - NEW Mandatory Areas Sources of Evidence Template March 2009 - to complete with Application for Approval
 - Document 13 - Expression of Interest Form for Teachers clarification

Section 'Teaching in NSW' - website documents in the following folders have been updated at <http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/Teaching-in-NSW.html>

- Information for Potential Teachers - revised
- NSW Graduate Teachers - NEW, including Accreditation and Employment
- Interstate Teachers - revised
- Overseas-trained Teachers - revised
- Subject Content Requirements (abridged) - revised Secondary Languages p40 Column 4 to read 'A major in a language including study of the spoken and written language'
- SCR Clarification of some second secondary teaching areas - deleted
- Summary of Secondary areas - NEW
- Summary of Primary areas - NEW
- Approved Programs of Initial Teacher Education in NSW and ACT (abridged) updated March 2009

INFORMATION

Prerequisites for Admission to Initial Teacher Education Programs

At its February 2009 meeting the Initial Teacher Education Committee (ITEC) passed two motions with regard to Initial Teacher Education (ITE) undergraduate program prerequisites for admission as set out in the *Graduate Teacher Standards 1.1.1-1.1.3 – Subject Content Requirements*.

1. That ITEC supports the Institute's recommendation that the intention of the prerequisites for admission is to encourage a general raising of the literacy and numeracy standards for ITE graduates entering the profession.
2. That ITEC establishes a working party to develop advice on the appropriate level of literacy and numeracy required for the purposes of the prerequisites, and to provide advice on the appropriate testing benchmarks and the content of any bridging/concurrent units.

The NSW Institute of Teachers will issue a clarifying statement regarding the prerequisites for admission based on the findings of this working party. The statement will clarify Mathematics and/or English requirements for admission into programs. This advice will be available before, and apply to, the 2010 cohort. This is not related to the 2009 cohort.

In November 2008 the Institute requested information from all teacher education institutions (TEI) regarding procedures for applicants without Band 4 in Mathematics and/or English and the Institute is supportive of all these procedures, for the 2009 cohort. It is the responsibility of each TEI to assess and monitor whether or not applicants to their programs meet the prerequisites for admission. Importantly a graduate from an ITE program who commenced, or will commence, a program in 2009 will not be disadvantaged, as a result of any interpretation of the prerequisites.

In relation to subject comparabilities (and levels) across Australian states, UAC is involved in a project through ACTAC (Australasian Conference of Tertiary Admissions Centres). UAC has indicated that as part of this project it will be determining what achievements in each state are comparable to the NSW HSC Performance Bands. When published, this will provide clear guidance to TEIs. UAC intends to have these comparabilities published, prior to applicants making applications for 2010 ITE.

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