



April 2008

UPDATE FOR TEACHER EDUCATORS

For Deans and teacher educators in teacher education institutions in NSW

1. Workshop on assessment of prerequisites for admission to ITE programs

The Institute has invited Deans to nominate a representative/s responsible for determining prerequisites for admission to teacher education programs, to attend a Workshop on 9 May 2008 to be held at the Institute of Teachers. Discussion will relate to the *Supplementary Documentation Graduate Teacher Standards 1.1.1-1.1.3 (Subject Content Requirements)*, including prerequisites for admission to graduate entry programs. In addition in 2007 a number of institutions in NSW have used Institute specifications for admission to graduate entry programs and staff will be able to discuss their approach.

2. Recognised programs – advice on fulltime length, mid-year intake and distance education

The Institute receives enquiries from potential teachers regarding options for study. The Institute is planning to provide a link to each institution and each program on the list of Institute-recognised initial teacher education programs in NSW and ACT on the website <http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/Approved-Programs-abridged.html> This will be regularly checked for currency. In particular queries regarding which institutions offer mid-year entry and distance education are not always clear on institution websites. It would assist applicants if this information were available on your website.

3. Universities Admissions Centre (NSW and ACT) [UAC] equivalence of interstate qualifications with the NSW Higher School Certificate

From 1 January 2009 a teacher education institution will be responsible for determining that an applicant for an approved initial teacher education program has met the prerequisites for admission, so that, upon graduation the graduate will be eligible for accreditation to teach in any NSW school.

Following an Initial Teacher Education Committee (ITEC) decision last year, each teacher education institution (and not the Institute) will need to notify UAC of prerequisites for admission to its initial teacher education programs, including subject content requirements specified as prerequisites for admission. These requirements are specified on the Institute website at */Initial Teacher Education /Program Requirements /Graduate Teacher Standards 1.1.1-1.1.3 (Subject Content Requirements)*

You may find it useful to make reference to the abridged version of the Institute's subject content requirements found at */Teaching in NSW /Subject Content Requirements (abridged)*

Professional Experience

Draft supplementary documentation will be distributed shortly to all stakeholders. At present the number of days of supervised classroom experience required by the Institute follows the previous recommendation of 40-45 days for a one year program, 60 days for a two year program and 80 days for a four year program. The specifications distributed by the former Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training form part of a pilot project in line with Commonwealth budgetary requirements and at present are not Institute specifications.

ITEC Panel Assessment

One of the foremost responsibilities of the Institute is to assure both the profession and the community of the quality of teacher education. Expressions of Interest from all teacher educators are sought for participation in Initial Teacher Education Committee Panels at <http://www.nswteachers.nsw.edu.au/ITEC-Panel-Assessment.html>

Queries

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