

Specific advice from NESA re: teacher accreditation for pre-2004 teachers

Editor's note: This information was provided to Cassy Norris by Kate Ambrose from NESA, in response to Cassy's request for detailed information about what requirements surrounded the maintaining of teaching accreditation for pre-2004 teachers.

General information on teacher accreditation

The NESA website has a useful two and a half minute animation on the website about the requirements of maintaining accreditation. Even though this does not answer specific questions from individuals, it is a good outline: <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/teacher-accreditation/maintaining-accreditation/how-it-works>

Teacher accreditation for pre-2004 teachers

If someone believes they may have been accredited along with the other pre 2004 teachers but have not received any documentation via email or home address, they can contact NESA to confirm their status.

If a pre 2004 teacher/principal has not had more than a five year break from teaching but does not believe they have already been accredited, it is most likely they are eligible to be accredited at Proficient Teacher. If they have not been accredited already, the best way forward is for them to email pre2004enquiries@nesa.nsw.edu.au with their name, date of birth, Working with Children Check number, the date they last worked as a teacher and where they worked. The team here at NESA can then contact the Department of Education as the Teacher Accreditation Authority for the teachers employed by the Department with those details to confirm their eligibility for accreditation.

If the pre 2004 teacher/principal has had more than five years from teaching (including casual teaching), they will need to gain conditional or provisional accreditation initially and then go through the processes identified in the Proficient Teacher Accreditation Policy to be fully accredited <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/wcm/connect/f0eefc0d-adb9-4f03-b254-8d3df4e5e3a0/proficient-teacher-accreditation-policy-2018.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=>

Any accredited teacher not teaching for six months or more (up to five years) can take a leave of absence from accreditation which then puts their accreditation time frame on hold.

If a teacher is already accredited and is on a leave of absence, they are still able to log professional development to contribute towards the professional development requirements for maintenance of accreditation at Proficient Teacher. In relation to your question about the professional development sections of Brian's retired principal meetings each term, I can advise that teacher identified professional development is any professional development that can be linked to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and that enhances the teacher's practice against the Standards. The teacher's professional judgement will guide them in deciding if the activity is professional development.

If a teacher is accredited, they are required to pay the \$100 annual fee. However, if an accredited teacher takes a leave of absence from accreditation they may be eligible for an exemption from the fee. Further information about the fee and applying for leave is available on the NESA website at <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/teacher-accreditation/how-accreditation-works/guide-to-accreditation/fees>

If you or Brian have any further questions or wish to clarify anything in my email, please do not hesitate to contact us on **1300 739 338**.

Kind regards
Kate

Kate Ambrose

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