

Early childhood teacher qualifications under the National Law

All centre-based services with children **under school age** (primarily long day care and kindergarten services) need to have access to a qualified early childhood teacher (ECT) or have one in attendance at the service.

For details about these requirements, visit the department's website at www.dete.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/qualifications.

To meet the qualification requirements, early childhood teachers must either:

- **hold an approved qualification** listed on the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website at www.acecqa.gov.au **OR**
- meet one of the National Law's transitional provisions. These provisions allow some people holding other qualifications to be **taken to hold** an approved ECT qualification **OR**
- be studying and **taken to be** an approved ECT.

You will meet the ECT qualification requirements if you can answer 'YES' to one of the following statements:

YES I hold a qualification on the [approved ECT](#) qualifications list.

This list now recognises registered primary qualified teachers who hold an approved Diploma qualification or higher.

You will be **taken to hold** an approved ECT qualification if you can answer 'YES' to one of the following statements:

Immediately before 1 January 2012:

YES I was **registered** with the Queensland College of Teachers.

AND

YES **OPTION 1**
Before 1 January 2012, I held a qualification on the:

- [approved Diploma](#) level qualification list **OR**
- [former approved Diploma](#) qualifications list **OR**
- [former approved Diploma \(Queensland\)](#)

OR

YES **OPTION 2**
Before 1 January 2012, I was **enrolled** in a course for a qualification that is on the:

- [approved Diploma](#) level qualification list **OR**
- [former approved Diploma](#) qualifications list **OR**
- [former approved Diploma \(Queensland\)](#)

OR

YES **OPTION 3**
I was enrolled in an [approved Diploma](#) level qualification (or higher) on or **before 31 December 2013**.

You will be **taken to hold** an ECT qualification while **enrolled and studying towards** the Diploma qualification (or higher) and when you have completed that qualification.



Still Studying?

Until 1 January 2018, you will be taken to be an early childhood teacher if you can answer 'YES' to the following statement plus either Option 1 or 2:

YES I am enrolled in and studying towards * an [approved ECT qualification](#).

YES I am a registered primary teacher enrolled and studying towards * an approved Diploma level qualification or higher.

AND

YES **OPTION 1**
I have completed at least 50% of the ECT course.

OR

YES **OPTION 2**
I hold an [approved Diploma](#) level qualification.

* You will need to prove that your training is successfully progressing at a pace that will enable you to complete the qualification within a timeframe deemed reasonable by the training provider.

After 1 January 2018, you will need to have completed an approved ECT qualification to be considered a qualified ECT.

Thinking about studying?

Ensure you choose a course from the [list of approved early childhood teacher qualifications](#).

Want to teach an approved kindergarten program?

[Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme](#) (QKFS) eligibility requirements align with the National Law. This means that if you meet the qualification requirements under the National Law you will be eligible to deliver an approved kindergarten program under the QKFS.

More information

To find out if your qualification is on the approved or former approved qualifications list, visit the ACECQA website at www.acecqa.gov.au/qualifications and use the online search tool.

For more information on the qualification requirements under the National Law, contact ACECQA on 1300 4 ACECQA (1300 422 327) or via enquiries@acecqa.gov.au. Visit the department's qualification requirements webpage at www.dete.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/qualifications for information specific to Queensland educators.

For advice on QKFS teacher qualifications, phone 1800 4 KINDY (1800 4 54639).

Note: This information is for guidance only and cannot cover all situations. Lists subject to change. Information correct at time of printing.

