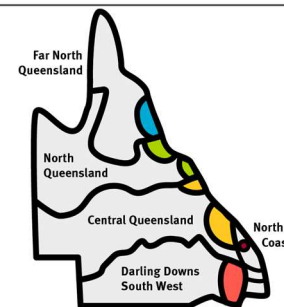


Regional Professional Experience Grant

Fact Sheet - Semester 1, 2023



The grant

The Regional Professional Experience Grant (grant) provides financial support for eligible preservice teachers (candidates) to teach, live and explore a **regional community** while completing a professional experience placement (placement) in an eligible **Queensland (QLD) state school** (school) in semester 1, 2023.

Who can apply?

Applications are encouraged from candidates who:

- are currently enrolled at an Australian university (university) and in their:
 - 3rd or 4th year of an undergraduate [initial teacher education](#) (ITE) program, or
 - 1st or 2nd year of a postgraduate ITE program, and
- hold a valid [QLD Working with Children Blue Card](#) with currency during the placement (interstate candidates will need to apply for a blue card).

Eligible locations/schools

The (minimum consecutive) 15-day placement must be undertaken in a school that has a **transfer rating (TR) of TR2-TR3** and is located:

- at least [2 hours travel](#) (each way) from the candidate's current residence and the school for the placement, and
- within a [priority region](#) - Central QLD, Darling Downs-South West¹, Far North or North QLD. Select secondary schools in the North Coast region are also eligible.

Eligible schools are highlighted in blue in the regional maps provided on the Smart Jobs website (under 'documents').

Alternatively, the transfer ratings can be found through a search on the department's [school's directory](#). Type the school's name in the 'state schools' section and select the school from the options provided > select 'search' > select 'more details.' The school's details will show under the 'school profile.'

Step 1 - Organise the placement

- Research the [priority regions](#) to determine the school/s for the placement.
- Ensure the school/s is highlighted in the regional maps on the [Smart Jobs website](#). If the school isn't highlighted¹, the [Beyond the Range Professional Experience Grant](#) (BTR grant)² should be considered.
- The placement should be at least 2 hours (each way) from the current residence using the [RACQ trip planner](#).
- Liaise with the placement office/officer at the university to organise the placement.

The fine print: ¹TR1 schools in the Darling Downs-South West region are exempt. | ²The BTR grant is for placements in TR4-TR7 state schools in priority regions. | ³The grant offering and its particulars can be subject to change at any time at the department's discretion. | ⁴Candidates should regularly check their email's bin/junk/SPAM/trash folders as emails from the [scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au](#) address can be sent there. | ⁵It's recommended that receipts for placement related expenses be retained until after the placement is completed. The ATO defines travel expenses as transport, accommodation, meals and incidental | ⁶The grant - paid via EFT - may affect the annual income and/or benefits received. It's recommended that financial advice is sought from an advisor, the Australian Taxation Office and/or Centrelink | November 2022

Step 2 - Apply for the grant

1. When the placement is confirmed in writing (i.e., Sonia Online or InPlace) apply for the grant on the [Smart Jobs website](#).
2. Log into Smart Jobs (create an account if needed) and:
 - in the 'upload resume' section, upload the documents requested in the RPEG Doc Checklist (provided on the [Smart Jobs website](#) under 'documents'), and
 - respond to all questions in the online questionnaire.

Incomplete applications or applications submitted less than 6 weeks before the placement start date may result in a delayed payment including receiving the grant whilst on placement.

Experiencing trouble uploading the documents? Email them to [scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au](#)

The grants for semester 1, 2023³ will close on the 2 June 2023 or when the semester's allocation is depleted.

The grants for semester 2, 2023³ will open in mid-term 2. [Register here](#) to receive information when it's available.

Step 3 - Grant offers

Candidates will receive an email within 3 weeks⁴ of applying for the grant to either: (a) seek further information or (b) provide an offer letter, Conditions of Payment (CoP), and a personal details advice form to complete and return which will initiate payment of the grant (this can take up to 3 weeks).

Conditions of the payment

Payment of the grant is based on the placement details provided in the online application. A CoP is to notify the department of any changes to the approved placement particulars (including a re-scheduled, cancelled or terminated placement) which may affect the grant amount paid or repaid⁵.

Step 4 - Payment of the grant

The one-off grant⁶ is to assist with placement-related travel expenses⁵. The grant is based on the duration of the placement not the TR of the school:

Duration of the placement / Grant amount			
15 days	20 days	25-35 days	40 days+
\$2,250	\$3,000	\$3,200	\$3,400

Questions?

Contact the Scholarships and Grants team, People Branch, Department of Education by phone at (07) 3055 2969 or by email at [scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au](#)