## **Regional Professional Experience Grant**

### Fact Sheet - Semester 1 2024

#### 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 in Semester 1 2024. bit.ly/OLDStateSchools

#### Who can apply?

Applications are encouraged from candidates who are currently enrolled at an Australian university (university) and:

- □ are in their 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of an undergraduate OR 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a postgraduate initial teacher education program bit.ly/AUAccreditedITEPrograms
- □ hold a QLD Working with Children Blue Card with currency during the placement <a href="bit.ly/QLDBlueCard">bit.ly/QLDBlueCard</a>. Interstate candidates will need to apply for a blue card <a href="bit.ly/InterstateBlueCard">bit.ly/InterstateBlueCard</a>, and
- ☐ are a person who resides in Australia and has permission, under a Commonwealth Law, to study in Australia.

Candidates who are on a permission-to-teach (PTT) may be eligible for the grant if undertaking an <u>unpaid placement</u> and meet the eligibility criteria. Contact the S&G team for eligibility.

#### Eligible locations/state schools

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

- □ at least **2 hours of travel** (each way) from the candidate's current residence to the state school for the placement bit.ly/RACOTripPlanner, and
- within a priority location Central QLD, Darling Downs-South West, Far North, North QLD and the North Coast (select schools). Eligible state schools are highlighted in blue on the maps provided on the Smart Jobs website. Select state schools in the North Coast and Metropolitan South are also eligible these schools are highlighted orange on the maps provided on the Smart Jobs website. bit.ly/RPEG2024-S1

If the state school isn't highlighted on the maps, the Beyond the Range Professional Experience Grant (TR4-TR7 state schools) could be considered. <a href="https://bit.ly/BTRG2024-S1">bit.ly/BTRG2024-S1</a>

Private and independent schools are <u>not eligible</u> for the grant.

# Apply via the QR code



- 21 June 24). Register to receive an email when the Semester 2 24 grants open at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/DoESchAlert">bit.ly/DoESchAlert</a>



Smart Jobs website

The grant offering, eligibility, particulars, and conditions is provided at the department's discretion.

#### Step 1 - Organise the placement

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- ☐ Ensure the state school meets the eligibility criteria (above).
- ☐ Organise the placement with the university (online and interstate candidates can contact the S&G team if needed).

#### Step 2 - Apply for the grant

When the placement is confirmed in writing [1] (i.e., Sonia Online or InPlace) apply for the grant on the Smart Jobs website.



Log into Smart Jobs (create an account if needed) and:

- ☐ in the 'upload files' section, upload the documents requested in the RPEG Doc Checklist (provided on the Smart Jobs website under 'documents'), and
- $\square$  respond to all the 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.

<sup>[1]</sup> Candidates can request a conditional offer which confirms their eligibility for the grant. Candidates should email the name of the state school/s, the dates of the placement, and their current home address while at university to <a href="mailto:scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au">scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au</a>. When the placement is confirmed in writing, an application for the grant is to be submitted.

Experiencing trouble uploading the documents? Email them to scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au

#### Step 3 - Grant offers

Candidates will receive an email [2] within 3 weeks of applying for the grant to either seek further information or to provide an offer letter, Conditions for Payment (CFP), and a form to complete and return. The completed form will initiate payment of the grant which can take up to 3 weeks.

[2] Regularly check the email's bin/junk/SPAM/trash folders!

#### Conditions of payment

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

#### Step 4 - Payment of the grant

The grant (paid via EFT) is based on the duration of the placement and is to assist with placement-related travel expenses including transport, accommodation, meals, and incidentals.

Receipts for placement-related travel expenses should be kept until the placement is completed in case repayment is required.

It's recommended that financial advice be sought (i.e., advisor, ATO and/or Centrelink) regarding potential implications to income and/or benefits received.

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 (S&G team), Human Resources Branch, QLD Department of Education by email at <a href="mailto:scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au">scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au</a> or by phone (\$\text{\$\tex