

Rural and Remote Professional Learning Grant – Master of Education 2024

Fact Sheet

*The **Professional Learning Grant** supports eligible teachers and school leaders in a transfer rating 4–7 school location to complete post-graduate qualifications. The grant provides up to \$10,000 each year towards tuition fees and is a great way to get ahead in your career while living in a rural or remote location.*

The Grant

The Department of Education is offering the Rural and Remote Professional Learning Grant – Master of Education (grant) in recognition of the contribution of Queensland state school teachers and school leaders working in our most remote communities.

Grant Benefits

Reimbursement of course fees (up to \$10,000 per year) to those who are/will study a [Master of Education degree](#) (or similar) via online delivery/external mode at an Australian higher education institution (HEI) in Semester 1 and/or Semester 2 or 3 in 2024.

Eligibility

Eligible candidates must:

- be currently employed as a teacher or school leader in a Queensland state school (transfer rating 4–7), that is located within a rural or remote community in the Central Queensland, Darling Downs-South West, North Coast (select schools), Far North or North Queensland region. A list of eligible schools can be accessed in the [Choose your teaching adventure booklet](#).
- hold full or provisional teacher registration with the Queensland College of Teachers and have at least two years or more teaching experience.
- be studying a Master of Education degree (or similar) via online delivery/external mode at a HEI in Semester 1 and/or Semester 2 or 3 in 2024.

How to apply

Candidates can apply for the grant at any time by following these steps:

1. Submit an [online application](#) via the Smart Jobs website.
2. Respond to an online questionnaire.
3. Provide evidence of enrolment in the degree from the HEI.

Candidates will receive notification of their eligibility upon submission of the online application and if eligible, reimbursement will occur as per the semester of study timeframes.

Selection process

Please note that although you may meet the eligibility criteria for the grant, applications are prioritised by school context (i.e. identified Indigenous communities operating under government reforms) followed by the remoteness of location (transfer rating 7–4). The grants will be offered until the allocated funding has been met for each budget cycle and successful candidates are to reapply for the grant each year.

Payment of the grant

To obtain reimbursement, candidates are to provide the following documentation in line with the timeframes for processing reimbursement/s:

- an official receipt from the HEI which shows the unit code/s and the amount paid for each unit/s; or a HECS-HELP/FEE-HELP statement (from MyGov Account) showing the unit code/s and the amount owing for each unit/s;
- an unofficial academic transcript from the HEI (student portal) showing a minimum 'pass' grade for the unit/s in which reimbursement is sought.

Reimbursement of course fees for study between Semester 1 and/or Semester 2 or 3, 2024 will be provided through the department's ExpenseMe Pro (expense management) system upon receipt of the documentation noted above.

Please note: This grant may be subject to Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) with possible reportable Fringe Benefit Amount (RFBA) reported on your payment summary. The grant may have implications on current and future earnings / taxable



income and/or benefits received. It is recommended candidates obtain independent financial advice if required. Information may be obtained from the ATO website or Centrelink website.

Timeframes for processing reimbursement/s

Semester of study	Sem 1, 2024	Sem 2 & 3, 2024
Results released	Jul 2024	Nov onwards
Reimbursements processed	Jul – Dec 2024	Dec – Mar 2025

Additional information

What's not included in the grant: Teacher Relief Scheme (TRS); Study and Research Assistance (SARAS leave); travel and accommodation; internet access; student ID card; and course materials such as textbooks and printouts.

Applications close 20 December 2024

Useful links

Choose your teaching adventure booklet (Teach Queensland website):

bit.ly/ChooseYourTeachingAdventure

Online application (SmartJobs):

bit.ly/RRlearninggrant

Master of Education course list:

bit.ly/RRdegreelist

Australian Tax Office (ATO):

www.ato.gov.au

Centrelink:

www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/centrelink

Enquiries

Enquiries can be directed to the Scholarships and Grants team, Employment Incentives and Pathways, Human Resources Branch by email scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au or telephone (07) 3055 2991.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is considered as a 'similar' degree?

A To be considered for the grant, candidates must complete a Master of Education – in any education related field – or a similar course. If you're unsure if the degree you're considering is eligible, email the Scholarships and Grants team at scholarships@qed.qld.gov.au to determine your eligibility.

Q I'm currently studying/wish to study a graduate certificate/diploma. Would I be eligible for the grant?

A No. However, a Master's degree may contain core units that could contribute towards a graduate certificate or graduate diploma. This should be confirmed with the tertiary institution. To be eligible for the grant, candidates must enrol in a Master of Education degree.

Q I'm currently studying/wish to study a PhD/Doctorate. Would I be eligible for the grant?

A No. The current intent of the grants is to support those who are or will undertake a Master of Education degree.

Q If I commence study in Semester 2, 2024 and I'm eligible for grant, will my course fees be reimbursed each year until I complete my degree?

A No. If you're eligible for the grant, you'll receive reimbursement of your course fees in 2024. You'll need to reapply for the grant each year of study.

In addition, although you may meet the eligibility criteria for the grant, applications are prioritised by school context (i.e. identified Indigenous communities operating under government reforms) followed by the remoteness of location (transfer rating 7-4). The grants will be offered until the allocated funding has been met for each budget cycle.