

Regional Professional Experience Grant

Fact Sheet – Semester 1 2026

Have you thought about teaching in a **regional community** in Queensland when you graduate?

This grant provides an excellent short-term opportunity to see if teaching and living in a regional community is for you!

The grant

If eligible, the Regional Professional Experience Grant (grant) will provide you with a grant to assist with placement-related expenses (i.e., transport, accommodation, meals, and incidentals) if you undertake your professional experience placement in an eligible QLD [state school](#) in Semester 1 2026 (27 January to 26 June) of the [state school calendar](#).

The grant is provided for the duration of the placement:

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

If you're a current employee of the department, the grant will be taxed. You may also be eligible for special paid leave through the [Supported Pathway into Teaching](#) program.

Eligibility criteria

You are eligible to apply if you are currently enrolled at an Australian university (Uni) and:

- are in your 3rd/4th year of an undergraduate OR 1st/2nd year of a postgraduate [initial teacher education](#) program (teaching degree);
- hold a current [QLD Working for Children Blue Card](#) during the placement;
- reside in Australia and have permission, under a Commonwealth Law, to study in Australia;
- are on a permission-to-teach (PTT) with the department during your placement, and you meet the eligibility criteria.

If you are completing your final placement in a QLD state school, you may also be eligible for [Teach Qld Prac Placement Grant](#).

Eligible priority locations/state schools

In addition to the criteria above, your minimum 15-day consecutive placement must be undertaken in a state school that has a transfer rating between TR2-3 and is located:

- at least [2 hours of travel](#) (each way) from where you currently live (while at Uni) to the state school for the placement; and
- within a priority location: Central QLD, Darling Downs-South West, Far North QLD, North QLD and select state schools within the North Coast and Metropolitan South.

The eligible state schools are located towards the east coast and are highlighted blue or orange in the maps that are provided at under 'documents' on the [Smart Jobs website](#).

Private schools are not eligible for the grant.

How to apply

Step 1. Organise your placement

- Select a state school for the placement ensuring it meets the eligibility criteria.
- Organise the placement with the Uni.

Step 2. Apply for the grant

When the placement is confirmed (i.e., Sonia Online or InPlace), apply online for the grant via the Smart Jobs website.

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

- in the 'upload resume and other documents' section, upload the documents listed in the RPEG Doc Checklist (under 'documents' on the Smart Jobs website); and
- 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 receiving the grant while on placement.

Refer to Q9 of the FAQs (page 2) for conditional offers.

Selection process

You will receive an email within 6 weeks of applying for the grant to either seek further information or to provide an offer letter, Conditions for Payment (CFP) to complete and return.

Regularly check the email's bin/junk/spam/trash folders!

Conditions for payment

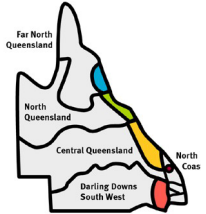
Please read the [conditions of the grant](#) before applying.

Payment of the grant

Payment can take up to 4 weeks and is initiated upon receipt of the relevant documents. Payment will be provided in a lump sum via EFT or with your fortnightly pay if you're an employee of the department.

You are required to [notify the Department](#) 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. Please keep the receipts for placement-related expenses and seek financial advice (i.e., an advisor, ATO and/or Centrelink) regarding potential implications to income, tax and/or benefits received/to be paid.

If you're an employee of the Department of Education during your placement, the grant will be provided to you with your fortnightly pay and will be taxed as per the [ATO requirements External link](#).



Useful links

Australian Taxation Office (ATO) bit.ly/PExGrantATOEmpTax
Australian University/Initial Teacher Education program bit.ly/AUAccreditedITEPrograms
Beyond the Range Professional Experience Grant (BTRG) bit.ly/QLDDoEBTRG
Choose your Teaching Adventure booklet https://bit.ly/DoETR7-TR4schools
NRMA Trip Planner mynr.ma/3yGQICZ
QLD state schools bit.ly/QLDStateSchools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location information State Delivered Kindergartens Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
Schools Directory bit.ly/QLDSchoolsDirectory
Teach Queensland Prac Placement Grant bit.ly/DoETQPPG
Working for Children Check <ul style="list-style-type: none"> QLD - bit.ly/QLDBlueCard Interstate candidates - bit.ly/InterstateBlueCard

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q4. How do I find a map of the eligible state schools?**
- A. Maps of the eligible state schools are provided under 'documents' on the Smart Jobs website. Eligible state schools will be highlighted blue or orange.
- Q5. The school I wish to undertake my placement is not highlighted on the maps on Smart Jobs. Does this mean I'm not eligible for the grant?**
- A. If the school isn't highlighted in the maps and it's located inland from the east coast, it may be a rural or remote state school that may be eligible for the [Beyond the Range Professional Experience Grant](#).
- Q6. The commute from my home to the placement school is 1 hour and 30 minutes but with traffic/roadworks etc, it can take over 2 hours as per Google Maps. Am I eligible for the grant?**
- A. The [NRMA Trip Planner](#) is used to determine eligibility for the grant as this planner is based on kilometres not real time like Google maps which can change significantly throughout the day. Please use the NRMA trip planner to determine your eligibility.
- Q7. My teaching degree is in early childhood and I need to complete a placement in a kindergarten. Can I apply?**
- A. If your placement is in a private kindergarten (i.e., kindy, long day care centre, or pre-school), you aren't eligible to apply for this grant, however, if you complete a placement in a state school that has a [State Delivered Kindergarten program](#) that is within a priority location, you may be eligible for the grant providing you meet the other eligibility criteria.
- Alternative financial support may be available via early childhood education and care training and capability building [website](#).
- Q8. I wish to undertake a placement in an identified Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community. Is there a list of schools?**
- A. A list of the state schools and their locations can be accessed on the [Teach Queensland website](#).
- Q9. My Uni doesn't confirm the placement until close to the start date. I would like to apply for the grant. What can I do?**
- A. You can request a conditional offer which confirms your eligibility for the grant when a complete application is provided including the confirmed placement. In the [email to the Department of Education's S&G team](#), note the start and end dates of the placement, the address of where you currently live (while at uni), and the state school/s in which you will/are looking to complete your placement. The S&G team will check your eligibility and respond within 5 business days.

Additional information

- Q1. How long are the grants open for?**
- A. The grants are available through-out Semester 1 2026 (27 January to 26 June). All documents must be submitted by the closing date.
- Q2. I previously received the grant. Can I apply for the grant again?**
- A. Yes. If you're a previous recipient of a grant, you can apply again, however, one grant per semester.
- Q3. When will the grants open for Semester 2 2026?**
- A. Register to receive an email when the grants open later in the year.
<http://bit.ly/DoEscholarshipalerts>

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

Applications close 26 June 2026

Apply via [Smartjobs here](#)

Enquiries

Contact the Scholarships and Grants team (S&G team), Employment Incentives and Pathways, Recruitment and Mobility, Human Resources School Operations Branch, Department of Education by email at scholarships@ged.qld.gov.au