

Labour Mobility: Challenges Relating to Reciprocity and Mutual Recognition

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Victorian Institute of Teaching

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What is the Institute?

- independent government statutory authority regulating the Victorian teaching profession in the public interest
- reports to the Victorian Parliament through the Minister for Education
- One of eight state and territory teacher regulators within Australia each with legislative control of their own jurisdiction
- There is no national controlling regulator

What does the Institute do?

Regulates the profession by:

- registering teachers in Victoria
- approving initial teacher education programs
- developing, establishing and maintaining standards of professional practice and a professional learning framework
- developing codes of ethics and conduct
- investigating the conduct, competence and fitness to teach of registered teachers

What the Institute isn't

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- A member organisation
- A professional development provider or industrial organisation for teachers

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Who is registered?

118,247 registered teachers:

- 100,099 with 'full' registration
- 1 in 8 with provisional registration

7,209 new registrants:

- 4,788 with Victorian qualifications
- 870 with interstate qualifications
- 918 with overseas qualifications

Data at 30 June 2014

Historical Context- Within Australia

The then Prime Minister, Premiers and Chief Ministers signed the [Agreement Relating to Mutual Recognition](#) on 11 May 1992. This agreement provides the right to registration in any jurisdiction in Australia based on holding registration in another jurisdiction

In addition all the States and Territories have agreed to a nationally consistent approach to registration in 2011.

Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition

The [Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement \(TTMRA\)](#) was agreed in 1996 and came into force on 1 May 1998.

The TTMRA is a non-treaty agreement between the Australian Government, State and Territory Governments and the Government of New Zealand, under the [Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997](#).

The TTMRA builds on, and is a natural extension of, the 1992 [Mutual Recognition Agreement](#) (MRA) between the Commonwealth Government and the State and Territory Governments

Change Process

- Ideally is nation wide- so requires consensus of all the States and Territories
- Needs to be based on strong, consistent evidence- and this can difficult to collect
- And must be change that does not diminish the public protection role that regulation fulfils in Australia

Challenges

- Increased mobility requires confidence in the standards of the country that wants their teachers recognised
- What is equivalent and who determines it?
- How do we deal with cultural competence and mobility?

Resources

- <http://www.vit.vic.edu.au>
- <http://www.aitsl.edu.au/induction-registration/nationally-consistent-registration-of-teachers>
- <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2010C00197>
- <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2012C00901>