



Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023 **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Asked by Mr Jeremy Hanson CSC MLA on 22 November 2023: Professor Lincoln took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard uncorrected proof transcript 22 November 2023 [PAGES 11-12]

In relation to: Probationary teacher registration during masters program

MR HANSON: Awesome, awesome. Another one is I was talking to a school principal the other day and it is tough to get teachers and one of the concepts he raised with me was getting people in laterally, you know, rather than just leaving school, you know, people go off to other careers, but there are a lot of people mid-career that might say, "Well, I might give teaching a go". They might not necessarily want to go back to ground zero to, you know, live in your lovely accommodation and become an undergraduate student again.

Is there a capacity for lateral students and particularly in education, I think, to be given some form of, you know, recognition of prior learning and life experience? Because I would contend that someone who has perhaps been a mother and in their forties knows a lot more about management of those kids than someone coming straight out of school and you could put them almost straight into a classroom, in a sense.

Ms Lincoln: Yes, yes.

MR HANSON: Has that been looked at at all?

Ms Lincoln: Yes. And you are actually describing a significant proportion of our students, actually. So we have that same with nursing, for example; we have a lot of mature aged students in nursing and education. We do offer a Master's in Education which allows people who have had any other kind of degree to train to be a teacher in a shorter time period and that course is offered flexibly, so you can do a large proportion of that online after the kids are in bed at night if you want to, so we are really trying to access those groups of people and help them make a—

MR HANSON: How long does the masters take?

Ms Lincoln: It is a two year program.

MR HANSON: Two year program. Can you get these people in sort of on the job while they are doing that course or have you got to wait for them to be qualified and then registered?

Ms Lincoln: So they do placements pretty much from the get-go, so they are actually in our affiliated schools from the very beginning working in classrooms with kids, under supervision of course. And then I am not—I cannot tell you the specifics, but I do know that they can access employment towards the end of their degree for casual teaching positions in schools, for example, once they have a registration number.

MR HANSON: Right. Okay, so is it a probationary type registration or it is a—

Ms Lincoln: Yes.

MR HANSON: It is?

Ms Lincoln: There are limitations around it until they have their degree.

MR HANSON: Okay, and how much of the masters course do they need to have completed prior to being able to do that sort of—

Ms Lincoln: Yes, I will take that one on notice. I do know in the undergraduate degree, this is their final year when they can start to engage in that, and I guess in the masters course it is truncated. It will be maybe the last six months, but I will double check for you.

Professor Michelle Lincoln: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Within the University's Master of Primary and Master of Secondary Teaching Courses (and all undergraduate teaching programs), students can apply for a Restricted Permit to Teach (RPTT) and can commence teaching at a nominated school in their final year of studies, provided they have satisfactorily met the conditions identified in the left hand column of the table below and conditions within the University's agreements with employers. Under UC's agreements with ACT employer groups, to obtain a RPTT, students must have satisfactorily completed all scheduled placements prior to the final year of their degree and must have passed all parts of the LANTITE (literacy and numeracy test for initial teacher education students). Students may teach up to a 60% load under a RPTT.

Once they have reached their final semester, successfully completed all required placements within their degree, and fulfilled the requirements in the second column of the table below students can be granted an unrestricted Permit to Teach (PTT). Under a PTT, students can teach fulltime or casually across all ACT schools.

Included in the above, a Permit to Teach may be approved for an Initial Teacher Education (ITE) student, who is currently enrolled in accredited ITE program, providing:

either	or
<p>1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the ITE student has commenced the final year of the ITE program; andb) the ITE program provider and a teacher employer/school has a TQI endorsed Student Permit to Teach agreement addressing the principles:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. assuring the integrity and quality of the initial teacher education program, andii. ensuring that initial teacher education students are adequately supervised, monitored and supported while working in schools; andc) the ITE program provider confirms that the student is likely to graduate at the end of the final year of the ITE program and complies with eligibility requirements outlined in the TQI endorsed Student Permit to Teach agreement. <p>Approval under this provision permits the ITE student to accept work in the nominated ACT school.</p>	<p>2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the ITE student is in the final semester of the ITE program and has successfully completed all required professional experience placements, andb) the ITE program provider confirms that the student is likely to graduate at the end of the current semester. <p>Approval under this provision permits the ITE student to accept work in any ACT school.</p>

Source: TQI 'Teacher Registration and Permit to Teach Policy'

https://www.tqi.act.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1979861/Teacher-registration-and-PTT-policy-2023.pdf

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:



Date: 30.11.2023

By the Acting Vice-Chancellor, University of Canberra, Professor Lucy Johnston