

Surrender of Teacher Registration

Policy

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1. Purpose

This policy provides a framework under which a registered teacher in Tasmania can voluntarily surrender their teacher registration, specialist VET registration or Limited Authority to Teach (LAT) rather than await the expiry of their registration cycle or LAT grant.

Teachers employed at a school, college or TAFE may want to surrender their registration or LAT for reasons including that they are no longer teaching, their profession no longer requires them to maintain teacher registration, or they are experiencing personal circumstances that have led to them deciding to surrender their registration

2. Legislation

For relevant sections of the *Teachers Registration Act 2000* (the Act), see [Appendix 1](#).

3. Policy statement

If an individual is teaching in a Tasmanian school or college, they must maintain registration, a limited authority to teach or permission to teach. This is no longer a requirement for TAFE teachers.

There may come a time when individuals choose not to maintain their registration and will want an option to voluntarily surrender their registration.

There are currently no legislated options for a teacher to surrender their Tasmanian registration. However, common law provides a remedy.

While this policy provides an avenue for teachers to voluntarily surrender their teacher registration, this does not preclude the Teachers Registration Board (the Board) progressing disciplinary or conduct matters which have come to the Board's attention about that person. For instance, if a person is subject to disciplinary proceedings (even if the person resigns or retires), the employer is required to notify the Board (s31 of the Act).

If a registered teacher has personal issues affecting their fitness to teach, such as medical, psychological, or psychiatric conditions, they should have the option of surrendering their registration rather than the Board proceeding to

emergency suspension. The circumstances of the matter will still be known to the Board and the person will not be able to be registered again without the Board assessing their good character and / or fitness to teach.

4. Definitions

'The Act' means the *Teachers Registration Act 2000*.

'Registered teacher' means a person who holds full registration, provisional registration or specialist vocational education and training registered and whose name appears on the register of teachers (Section 3 of the Act).

'Holder of a limited authority' means a person who holds a current notice of Limited Authority to Teach (LAT) (Section 3 of the Act).

5. Process

Once the Board confirms a teacher is no longer registered due to surrendering their teacher registration, that individual will not be able to teach in any government or non-government school in Tasmania.

To be registered in Tasmania in the future, that person will need to reapply and await the Board's assessment of their eligibility against current requirements at that time, in particular an assessment of their good character/fitness to teach.

It is noted that requirements for registration change over time. If an individual surrenders their registration and decides to reapply, they may not meet current requirements for registration. For example, they may need to undertake additional studies.

To surrender registration, an individual must provide notice in writing, including the proposed date of cessation. The Office of the Board will then reply in writing to the registered email address on our system for that individual.

Once processed, the Board will write to the individual to inform them that they are no longer

registered and have been removed from the Tasmanian register of teachers.

Registration fees may be reimbursed in accordance with the Board's *Fees and Payments Policy*.

If the person is employed, the employer will be notified of the cessation of registration, and the employer will then notify the Department of Justice (DoJ).

A surrender of registration under this policy is not a rescission and therefore does not negate any conduct or criminal matters (or consideration thereof) that come to the Board's attention, which would still be recorded for further action.

6. Related policies

Fees and Payments Policy

7. Related documents

N/A

8. Document history

Version	Details	Approved by	Approval date
1.0	Policy established	Board	14/12/2022

Appendix 1: Extracts from the Teachers Registration Act 2000

Teachers Registration Act 2000

Version current from 1 July 2022 to date (accessed 2 November 2022 at 10:06)

12. Application for registration

[Section 12 Substituted by No. 79 of 2009, s. 8, Applied:01 Jul 2013]

- 1) *[Section 12 Subsection (1) amended by No. 11 of 2013, Sched. 1, Applied:01 Jul 2013]* A person may apply to the Board for registration.
- 2) An application is to be –
 - a) in an approved form; and
 - b) accompanied by the prescribed application fee.
- 3) The Board may require the applicant –
 - a) to provide any further information it considers necessary to consider the application; and
 - b) to authorise the Board, in writing, to obtain information relating to the applicant from any corresponding registration authority or any other person, government department or government body that the Board considers may have information relevant to the determination of the application.