

Professional Development Scholarships 2010

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Are you interested in obtaining qualifications in an alternative teaching area?

In 2010, the Department of Education and Training (DET) is offering a Professional Development Scholarship program that supports Queensland state school teachers to gain postgraduate qualifications in identified high-demand curriculum areas.

In 2010, these curriculum areas are:

- Industrial Technology and Design (ITD)
- Mathematics B and C
- Chemistry, and
- Physics.

Applications are welcomed from state school teachers who are teaching in these areas and would like to enhance or formalise their knowledge, as well as teachers who would like to make a transition to a career in one of these high demand curriculum areas.

Applications are open to permanent and temporary* full-time teaching staff. On successful completion of studies, scholarship recipients employed on a temporary basis will gain permanent employment with DET. All recipients are bonded to DET for a minimum service commitment (two years).

**Applications close
Wednesday, 4 November 2009**

Scholarship Support

A range of benefits are provided to Professional Development Scholarship recipients including:

- payment of fees associated with enrolment in the Graduate Certificate program, including student service fees
- non-contact time of up to 5 (five) days per semester to undertake study and to complete assessment items
- travel and kilometric allowances related to attendance at compulsory residential schools, if required, and
- support and assistance from mentors, principals and regional human resources staff.

* On or likely to secure a temporary contract of six months or more in 2010

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a DET Professional Development Scholarship, applicants must:

- be employed (full- or part-time) as a teacher in a Queensland state school in either a permanent or temporary capacity*
- have a genuine wish to seek appointment in the identified curriculum areas or to enhance their skills and knowledge in these curriculum areas
- hold current teacher registration with the Queensland College of Teachers (QCT)
- be an Australian citizen or have permanent residency status, and
- meet the university admissions requirements of the relevant Graduate Certificate program.

Scholarship Conditions

Scholarship recipients will be required to sign a legally binding agreement that outlines the responsibilities of both parties and specifies the conditions of the scholarship. Under these conditions, recipients are required to:

- successfully complete the Graduate Certificate program in which they are enrolled in 2010
- meet DET employment suitability requirements (temporary employees)
- accept an appointment at a Queensland state school at the discretion of DET and in response to identified vacancies for the 2011 school year, and
- commit to a permanent full-time teaching appointment in a Queensland state school for a minimum of two years, subject to the state-wide staffing process.

Study Program

Recipients are required to undertake a Graduate Certificate program completed externally in one calendar year through enrolment on a part-time basis. Two courses in each semester are generally completed.

Some scholarship recipients, such as those studying ITD, may be required to attend residential schools during school vacation periods.

Details of the relevant Graduate Certificate program to be undertaken will be provided to successful applicants.

Payment of Fees

Fees associated with enrolment in Semester 1 will be paid on receipt of confirmation of the recipient's enrolment for 2010. Fees associated with enrolment in Semester 2 will be paid on receipt of confirmation of successful completion of Semester 1, 2010. All other expenses incurred (for example, text books) are the responsibility of the recipient. It is recommended that scholarship recipients obtain independent financial advice regarding taxation matters.

Travel and Kilometric Allowances

Scholarship recipients who undertake Graduate Certificate programs that require attendance at residential schools will be supported through the payment of expenses incurred in accordance with relevant DET policies and guidelines and public service directives. Prior to each residential school, relevant recipients will receive information from DET about the procedures for organising travel and accommodation.

Access to Non-Contact Time

While recipients are expected to commit personal time to completing the requirements of the relevant Graduate Certificate program, the department will also provide each recipient's base school with 5 days of Teacher Relief Scheme per semester to support attendance at residential schools and/or enable completion of assessment and coursework.

This TRS is additional to and separate from a school's usual entitlement. Recipients will need to negotiate the timing of their release with their principal. Continuity of student learning and support of the teacher's study program are factors that need to be considered in these negotiations.

Application Process

All applicants for a DET Professional Development Scholarship are required to complete and submit:

- the Professional Development Scholarship Application form, specifying curriculum area for study and regional location preferences
- a supporting statement indicating:
 - interest in, commitment to and suitability for teaching in the selected curriculum area
 - suitability to undertake post-graduate study and how this will be balanced with work and personal commitments
- a supporting letter on school / departmental letterhead from their Principal, and
- a curriculum vitae (optional for permanent staff).

Selection Process

After the closing date for receipt of applications, short-listing will be undertaken by the department. Each region will assist in determining the selection of teachers from the applicants who nominate that region and who meet identified need areas. Applicants may be required to participate in a short interview in their region.

Scholarship offers will be determined on a merit basis through the written application, and interview process, where applicable. Applicants meeting all of the criteria will be ranked accordingly and awarded a scholarship depending on the available quota.

Scholarship Offers

Offers will be made in writing. Notification by telephone or email may also be made to recipients.

Offers of scholarships will be for the 2010 calendar year only and cannot be deferred. Offers are subject to the provision of confirmation of enrolment in the relevant Graduate Certificate program.

Applications considered meritorious but not successful in the first round of offers may be placed on a reserve list. Where an offer is declined applicants on the reserve list will be offered a scholarship, in order of merit.

Timelines

Key dates for the 2010 Professional Development Scholarship Program are as follows:

Date	Activity
23 Sep 2009	Scholarship applications open
4 Nov 2009	Final date for receipt of applications
5 – 27 Nov 2009	Selection process undertaken
<i>Week Commencing</i> 30 Nov 2009	Offers made to successful applicants
<i>Week Commencing</i> 8 Dec 2009	Recipients complete university enrolment process.

Other Scholarship Opportunities

In 2010, DET is also offering Primary Science Scholarships for primary teachers wishing to increase their science content knowledge and confidence in teaching primary science curriculum while enhancing student outcomes in this area. Information about these Scholarships is available on the website specified below.

Completed applications must be submitted by Wednesday, 4 November 2009 to:

Professional Development Scholarships
Workforce Planning - Human Resources
Department of Education and Training
GPO Box 15033
City East QLD 4002

Further information: www.education.qld.gov.au/students/grants/scholarships/
Enquiries: scholarships@deta.qld.gov.au