

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0232\_14**

**Senator O'Neill asked on 20 November 2013, Hansard page 111**

**Question**

**Migrant teachers seeking accreditation in Australia**

Senator O'NEILL: In terms of teachers coming from other contexts and seeking accreditation in Australia, could you outline how that is going and the timelines that are involved in people making their progress through?

Ms Gordon: So from other countries migrating to Australia?

Senator O'NEILL: Yes.

Mr Cook: Unfortunately, AITSL would have more information around that than us, because AITSL is the organisation that has been responsible for that. We could take it on notice, but we will not have that information available to us tonight.

**Answer**

Teachers from overseas who want to work in Australia must hold an appropriate visa, have their teaching qualifications assessed, and obtain registration from the relevant teacher registration authority before they are eligible to teach in schools.

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) undertakes the assessment of applicants' teaching qualifications. Advice from AITSL indicates that the assessment of teaching qualifications usually takes around ten weeks if the documentation provided with an application is complete.

In December 2012 and January 2013 there was a significant increase in applications due to a change to the English language proficiency criterion that came into effect on 1 January 2013. As a result of the increase, AITSL advised applicants that the timeframe for processing applications could be as long as 14 weeks. The processing time has subsequently returned to the normal ten week timeframe.

Further details about the assessment process are available at [www.aitsl.edu.au/assessment-for-migration.html](http://www.aitsl.edu.au/assessment-for-migration.html).