



Professional Standards Project

Project Details

Professional Learning Modules

The aim of the Professional Standards Project is to develop a set of high quality professional learning resources to support professional learning based on the professional standards. This will be provided in two streams. The specific content for the modules in both streams of the professional learning materials will be informed by consultation with State and Territory education jurisdictions, State and Territory Modern Language Teacher Associations (MLTAs), as well as national and State/ language specific associations through the State/Territory Teams and the Project Advisory Group.

Each module will contain:

- session outline
- PowerPoint slides and accompanying speaking notes
- participant handouts
- professional readings
- reflective activities
- between session activities
- guidelines for the trainers

The new phase of the Professional Standards Project will involve a further opportunity for language teachers to attend training for the Stream A modules and will also consist of a new set of Stream C Modules.

Stream A Modules

Stream A modules will aim to raise teachers' awareness of the international and national context of standards for languages education, to familiarise them with each of the dimensions in the Standards and how they link to other professional standards. They will assist teachers to reflect critically on their own professional knowledge and practice with a view to identifying areas for improvement.

Stream C Modules

Stream C modules will build on Stream A and B modules.

Stream C modules will focus on assessment and will include guidelines and support for participants to use for a classroom-based investigation.

The Project Management Group (PMG) will seek to have the professional learning modules for Stream C accredited at tertiary level.

National Training

A 3-day (minimum) national training program will be conducted in Adelaide for 23 State and Territory trainers to support them in the delivery of Stream C in their State/Territory. The group of trainers will include all States and Territories.

The PMG will develop the process and guidelines for selecting trainers from each State and Territory in consultation with the Project Advisory Group and key stakeholders in States and Territories as identified in the Communication and Promotion Strategy.

Trainers

State and Territory trainers must be members of the Modern Language Teacher Association (MLTA) in their State / Territory, or willing to become a member. The trainers in each State and

Territory will include representatives of both government and non-government school education sectors, with successful classroom teaching experience as a languages teacher.

The number of trainers in each State and Territory are:

- (a) Large states (NSW, VIC, QLD) -4 per State
- (b) Middle states (SA, WA) -3 per State
- (c) Small states (ACT, NT, TAS) -2 per State.

Stream A

Stream A has no prerequisites, any teacher may register to participate. Teacher release is not available for Stream A.

Stream C

Participants in Stream C will be selected, using an expression of interest process and in accordance with a process developed by the PMG, in consultation the Project Advisory Group and key stakeholders in each State and Territory. Final approval for this process rests with DEEWR. Participants in Stream C must have participated in Stream A.

Stream C trainers will conduct and document an ongoing classroom investigation on assessment during the implementation of Stream C over a 9 week period.

Stream C will be supported by some funds for teacher release.

Professional Learning Program Evaluation

The Australian Government Quality Teacher Program's Performance Reporting Framework will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the professional learning program, ensuring national consistency in professional development with a focus on improving the quality of teaching.

Participants in both Streams will receive certificates of participation.

Final Resource

A Final Resource will be developed at the conclusion of the Project so that it can be used by education authorities, professional associations and schools beyond the life of the Project to promote the use of the Standards in improving the quality of teaching and learning languages.

The Final Resource will draw on the experiences of participants in both Streams, and in particular on Stream B participants and the impact on their teaching. For example, it may include vignettes from teachers' classroom research. The content and format of the Final Resource will be determined in consultation with the Project Advisory Group. Final approval of this Resource will rest with DEEWR.

The final resource will be published on the Project webpage, with one copy distributed on CD or DVD to the 24 education authorities, the 8 State and Territory MLTAs, the Ethnic Schools sector and other key stakeholders as identified in the Communication and Promotion Strategy.