

These Frequently Asked Questions provide guidance for applicants seeking registration as an early childhood teacher in South Australia.

They outline the qualification requirements, pathways to registration, and alternative options where full registration requirements are not yet met.

Applicants should refer to the detailed information on the Teachers Registration Board of South Australia website for full eligibility requirements and application [Registering to Teach | Teachers Registration Board of South Australia](#)

1. How can I be registered as an early childhood teacher in South Australia?

To be registered, you must meet the Teachers Registration Board's minimum qualification requirements and all other registration criteria.

This includes holding an approved Initial Teacher Education qualification.

See the Early Childhood Teachers page for full details, including eligibility, application steps, and required documentation. [Early Childhood Teachers](#)

2. What qualifications are accepted for teacher registration in South Australia?

You must hold:

- an Initial Teacher Education (ITE) undergraduate qualification (birth-8, birth 12, primary, secondary), or
- an approved postgraduate ITE qualification, supported by an appropriate undergraduate qualification.

These qualifications must meet the Board's prescribed requirements. [Early Childhood Teachers | Teachers Registration Board of South Australia](#)

3. Can my ACECQA approved qualification let me register as a teacher?

Teacher registration is a requirement to teach in South Australia.

Registration is not a requirement for ECTs under the National Quality Framework (NQF) but it is a requirement to be recognised as a teacher in South Australia.

An early childhood qualification approved by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) may meet the requirements for teacher registration. [NQF approved qualifications list | ACECQA](#)

In general, this includes:

- ACECQA-approved 3-year early childhood teaching degrees (birth–5), or
- ACECQA-approved postgraduate masters of teaching (ECT), supported by an appropriate undergraduate degree.

For full details, see the **Early Childhood Teacher Registration** page on the Teachers Registration Board of South Australia website. [Early Childhood Teachers | Teachers Registration Board of South Australia](#)

4. Can I register as a teacher with an ACECQA approved Graduate Diploma or Graduate Certificate?

No.

Graduate Certificates and Graduate Diplomas do not meet the minimum requirements for teacher registration.

To be eligible for registration, you must hold an accredited Initial Teacher Education (ITE) qualification and/or an approved ACECQA qualification that also meets the Board's requirements.

For further guidance, refer to the Early Childhood Teacher Registration page or the fact sheet on non-approved qualifications. [ECT REGISTRATION](#)

5. What qualifications allow me to teach only in an early childhood setting?

You may be granted registration with a condition to teach in early childhood settings if you hold:

- an ACECQA approved 3-year bachelor early childhood teacher qualification
- an ACECQA approved postgraduate early childhood teaching qualification supported by an undergraduate degree of at least three years

Graduate Certificates and Graduate Diplomas do not meet this requirement.

6. What is an early childhood condition?

The condition will limit 3-year early childhood trained teachers to teach in an early childhood setting. This will include pre-schools, kindergarten, early childhood learning centres and in delivering education programmes in out-of-school-hours care.

7. Can a primary or secondary teacher be recognised as an early childhood teacher?

Yes. If you are already a registered primary or secondary teacher, you may be recognised as an 'equivalent early childhood teacher' under national arrangements.

Further information is available through the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA). See Recognition as an 'equivalent early childhood teacher'. It is at the discretion of employers if they wish to employ individuals under this provision. [Recognition as an 'equivalent early childhood teacher' | ACECQA](#)

8. How do I apply for registration as an early childhood teacher in South Australia while teaching in another State?

To apply for teacher registration under mutual recognition, applicants must hold current registration or accreditation in another Australian state or territory, or in New Zealand. Where an equivalent category exists in South Australia, registration will be granted in the corresponding category. The form is available on the Teachers Registration Board website <https://www.trb.sa.edu.au/Registering-to-Teach/Mutual-Recognition>.

9. Can I use my overseas early childhood teacher qualifications to be registered in South Australia?

Yes. However, if you hold an overseas teacher qualification (excluding New Zealand), you must first apply for an assessment of your qualification. In some circumstances you may need to provide TRB SA with your letter of approval from ACECQA as part of your application for assessment. [Overseas Trained Teacher | Teachers Registration Board of South Australia](#)

10. What is a Special Authority as an Early Childhood Teacher (Working Towards)?

A Special Authority to Teach (SAT) allows a person who does not yet meet the full qualification requirements for teacher registration to teach in a specified early childhood setting, based on workforce need.

A SAT is a temporary authorisation and is subject to conditions, including meeting requirements for fitness, propriety, and child safety.

For details see [Specific Authorities | Teachers Registration Board of South Australia](#)

11. What qualifications do I need for a SAT Early Childhood Teacher (Working Towards)?

You may be eligible if you:

- hold an ACECQA approved diploma-level education and care qualification and are enrolled in an approved early childhood teaching degree, or
- are enrolled in an approved early childhood teaching degree and have completed at least 50% of the qualification

You must also have a written offer of employment, not temporary relief teaching (TRT) in a prescribed early childhood service.

[Specific Authorities | Teachers Registration Board of South Australia](#)

12. How do I apply for a Special Authority as an Early Childhood Teacher (Working Towards)?

Visit the Specific Authorities page on the Teachers Registration Board of South Australia website. [Specific Authorities | Teachers Registration Board of South Australia](#)

This page provides information about the Special Authority to Teach (SAT) Early Childhood Teacher (Working Towards), including eligibility requirements and access to the Application form. [SAT1-Early-Childhood-Teacher-2026.pdf](#)

You will be required to submit supporting documentation, including a formal letter confirming your offer of employment as an Early Childhood Teacher.