The Improving Teacher Quality National Partnership (ITQNP) is a joint initiative between the Australian Government, Education Queensland and Catholic and Independent schooling sectors.

The Agreement acknowledges that teacher quality is the single greatest influence on student engagement and achievement. It aims to support all teachers and school leaders to strengthen the quality of teaching in every classroom, every day.

**Purpose**
The ITQNP aims to deliver state-wide changes to:
- attract the best entrants to teaching
- prepare teachers and school leaders for their roles in the school environment
- place teachers and school leaders to minimise skill shortages and enhance retention
- develop teachers and school leaders to enhance their skills and knowledge throughout their careers
- retain and reward quality teachers and school leaders for the value they bring to the classroom
- collect and maintain teacher workforce data

**Funding**
From 2009 to 2012, the funding agreement will see the Australian and Queensland Governments invest significant funding in ITQNP reforms across Queensland.

Education Queensland and the Catholic and Independent schooling sectors will co-contribute to the Australian Government’s investment in this initiative.

**Implementation process**
Initiatives supported through the ITQNP will be implemented from 2010 to 2012.

The timing of a number of reforms is dictated by work undertaken at a national level where all states and territories are collaborating to achieve national consistency in areas such as teacher registration and preservice teacher university program accreditation.

These reforms will be underpinned by a new set of National Professional Standards for Teachers.

**Reforms in the State School Sector**
For the Queensland State Schooling Sector, the key reforms proposed include:
- Piloting initiatives to support experienced tradespeople to undertake formal study to become a teacher.
- Scholarships for high achieving people who possess an undergraduate degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics while they gain a teaching qualification.
- Expanding and improving the Remote Area Teaching Education Program (RATEP) community based teacher education program.
- Collaborating with the higher education sector to develop and implement programs that enable senior secondary school students to begin studying for a teaching qualification while still at school.
- Implementing several School Centres of Excellence models to provide pre-service teachers with high-quality professional experiences and to build a clinical approach to teacher preparation.
- Supporting preservice teachers to undertake professional experiences in rural, remote and regional school locations.
- Implementing a program to provide aspiring principals with a supported career pathway including experience in small schools in rural and remote locations.
- Leading the development of a national teaching workforce dataset.

**Additional Information**
Further information regarding the priorities of the Improving Teacher Quality National Partnership Agreement, or the initiatives in Queensland state schools is available from the website:


or email Teacher.Quality@deta.qld.gov.au