

ACECQA

The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (or ACECQA) is an independent national authority that assists all governments to administer the National Quality Framework (or the NQF).

The NQF is jointly governed by the Australian Government and all state and territory governments, through Education Ministers.

ACECQA supports state and territory governments and their regulatory authorities to guide the consistent implementation and administration of the NQF.

ACECQA is established under section 224 of the *Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010* or the National Law. The National Law is implemented as an applied law scheme across the states and territories, with Victoria as the host jurisdiction. The applied law scheme requires all other states and territories to enact application Acts, except for Western Australia which passes corresponding legislation.

ACECQA's functions are set out in section 225 of the National Law and include, among other functions, to:

- promote continuous improvements in service quality in the provision of early childhood education and care
- keep national information on the assessment, rating and regulation of services, and national registers of approved providers and education and care services through the National Quality Agenda IT System
- support families to understand quality in early childhood education and care services
- publish guides, resources, practice notes and guidelines, and
- provide support and training for staff of regulatory authorities.

While ACECQA has a number of regulatory functions as the National Authority, such as determining the qualifications to be held by educators working in the sector, ACECQA is not the regulator of education and care services— that is the role of state and territory regulatory authorities.

ACECQA can answer questions about its powers, functions and role as set out in the National Law.

Matters relating to government policies and programs should be directed to the respective jurisdictions.