



Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education Students

Additional Resits Policy

Agreed resits controls

The current resit controls for the Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education Students (the test), as endorsed by the Governance Committee in December 2016, state the following:

- Standard resit controls are that students will be given an initial attempt plus up to, but no more than, two resits of the test for each component of the test.
- Higher education providers (HEPs) can authorise additional sittings of the test above the resit limits set by the resit controls for students in special circumstances. This allowance will be at the determination of higher education providers, and will require students to provide authority to the Test Administrator.
- To provide reasonable opportunities for students who commence then defer or change courses and return to study at a later date, resit controls will reset each time a student commences a new initial teacher education program.

These resit controls were put in place as there is a risk of reduced public assurance that current policies and reforms are contributing to improving the quality of graduating teachers, if students are given multiple (or unlimited) attempts to pass the Test.

Having three standard attempts in total to meet the standard provides students with adequate opportunities to demonstrate that their personal literacy and numeracy skills are equivalent to the top 30 per cent of the adult population.

Special/ extenuating circumstances

In special and/or extenuating circumstances HEPs may consider that individual students should be allowed additional test attempts above the standard resit allowance.

As specified above, this will be determined based on the advice of the HEP. While the original suggestion was for students to provide authority to the test administrator, in practice, it is considered more appropriate for HEPs to provide advice to the test administrator.

HEPs requesting additional resits for their students should provide formal advice in writing to ACER at teacheredtest@acer.edu.au which includes the student's name, student ID number, date of birth and the reason for requiring an additional resit. The reason should include where the student's previous results sit in relation to the standard and confirm that remedial action has been put in place to work with the student to achieve the standard.

Test fees would apply.

While it is expected that the number of students requiring additional resits will be minimal, there is a risk that this policy could be misused should an individual student be allowed multiple resit opportunities over the standard number, or if a HEP was seeking additional resits for large numbers of their students.

For these reasons, the following process is proposed:

- Deans of Education or their nominee provide formal advice to ACER before registrations open for the nominated testing window requesting additional resits for their student(s) and include the following information:
 - student's name
 - student ID number
 - date of birth
 - reason for requiring an additional resit including where the students' previous results sit in relation to the standard and confirm that remedial action has been put in place to work with the student to achieve the standard.

ACER will provide the Australian Government Department of Education and Training with a regular summary of all requests received (only de-identified data will be provided).

- ACER will hold authority to allow individual requests for a 4th resit, based on the judgment of HEPs.
- Where a HEP requests additional resits for multiple students (more than five in one sitting), or a 5th or higher resit for an individual student, ACER will notify the Australian Government and request a determination.
- In these extraordinary cases, an evaluation committee, consisting of two independent HEP representatives, would evaluate each request and provide advice to an Australian Government delegate on whether extraordinary cases were justified. Where the committee considered that the request was not justified the relevant Dean of Education or their nominee would be contacted to discuss the decision before finalising.
- The Australian Government will advise the HEP and ACER of the final decision.