



Submission to the Teaching Council – Re-consultation – applying additional savings to the fees and the levy

To: Lesley.Hoskin@teachingcouncil.nz

Introduction

1. NZEI Te Riu Roa (NZEI) is a professional organisation and union representing the interests and issues of 49,000 members employed as teachers and leaders in the early childhood education and primary sectors (including Kura Kaupapa Māori and Wharekura), support staff in the early childhood, primary, intermediate, and secondary education sectors, school advisers employed by universities, and Learning Support staff employed by the Ministry of Education.
2. NZEI Te Riu Roa is a values-led, te Tiriti o Waitangi-based organisation. This means that in all areas of work mokopuna Māori are considered first. We call this Mōku te Ao. Our submission is informed by this approach.
3. The main objective of NZEI Te Riu Roa is to advance the cause of quality public education generally while upholding and maintaining the just claims of its members individually and collectively.
4. NZEI Te Riu Roa is one of the largest unions and professional bodies in Aotearoa New Zealand and has a long history of playing a positive role in the education sector and on wider social issues affecting our members and the tamariki and whānau they serve.

General comments

5. While NZEI Te Riu Roa appreciates the opportunity to give feedback during this re-consultation period, there are concerns that the right questions are not being addressed. In fact, the issues that were raised by us during the previous consultation round, and

highlighted in our oral submission, do not appear to have been taken into account. It is also concerning that the Council is considering special provisions for one group of teachers.

6. We raised concerns about the costs involved in registration and certification, particularly for those working in early childhood education and those working, filling essential roles, as relievers. With significant challenges faced by teachers with the rising cost of living, this large increase places additional pressure on an already stretched workforce.
7. While those with LATs meet many needs, the obtainment of a LAT should not be seen as a permanent career pathway. Therefore, NZEI Te Riu Roa would like to see further work done by the Council to support those with a Limited Authority to Teach (LAT) to move to full certification. For example, the Council could work with the Ministry of Education to develop pathways including scholarships, to enable this to occur.

Final remarks

8. NZEI Te Riu Roa remains committed to working with the Council to introduce a fee and levy increase that is done in a thoughtful and considered manner.



Stephanie Mills

Korimako Tangiata | National Secretary

25 May 2022