CERTIFICATE III IN EDUCATION
(ABoriginal & Torres Strait Islander)

INFORMATION SHEET
FOR OFFSITE LOCATIONS 2017

What is RATEP?
RATEP is a community based teacher education program that provides a direct pathway for Indigenous people living in remote, rural and regional locations to become qualified teachers. The RATEP program is a partnership between TAFE Queensland North, the Department of Education (DET) and Training (formerly Education Queensland) and James Cook University. Currently there are 13 RATEP sites located on DET school premises throughout the state, providing teacher training at the Certificate III, Certificate IV and Diploma levels and students are also able to study via an ‘offsite’ mode with teaching support using technology and regular phone communications.

Who is eligible to apply for the Certificate III in Education (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) course?
The course is offered to senior high school Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students over a two year period in Years 11 and 12 as an integral part of their subject selection studies towards their Queensland Certificate in Education (QCE). (Also, students with the ability, self-motivation and commitment may wish to apply to complete the course in one year from 2017.)

What are the benefits of students completing the course?
The Certificate III in Education course offers a direct pathway to becoming a fully qualified teacher within a primary school setting. Unlike the Certificate III in Education Support specifically designed as a Teacher Aide (TA) qualification and the Certificate III in Child Care which caters for a career in the child care industry, our Certificate III in Education qualification lays a solid foundation towards gaining skills and knowledge as a classroom teacher, especially in relation to (but not exclusively for) Indigenous education contexts. The award is also acknowledged as meeting the base qualification for TAs/paraprofessionals in schools and provides 8 points for a student towards their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). The course also allows direct entry into the James Cook University Bachelor of Education program if students gain a sound (C) or above result in OP English, a Science strand and Mathematics A upon completion of Year 12.

Where is the course offered?
The Certificate III in Education (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) course is available from all RATEP sites around Queensland. These are either located at DET Education high schools or at nearby town or community state primary schools. Students attend the site to complete their VET Certificate III studies for one day each school week or the equivalent thereof within each week. Other RATEP sites are able to consider offering the Certificate III in Education course if interest is forthcoming from local high schools. From 2017 Indigenous senior school students from ANY location in Queensland will be able to complete our Certificate III in Education course via our offsite delivery model.

What is available at each RATEP site?
DET Education provides a registered RATEP Teacher Coordinator (TC) to manage each RATEP site and offer tutorial, administrative and pastoral support to students. From 2017 an Offsite RATEP TC position is being planned for all offsite Certificate III students via technology (email, online tutorials, phone, SMS, etc).

How is the course delivered?
The course is offered via blended delivery using a variety of print materials and other resources. The course is regularly increasing its online teaching-learning capability through e-classes, e-recordings and online submission, marking and return of all student assessment tasks.

Please Turn Over
Is there a practicum component?
Students complete practical tasks by way of classroom observations and small group teaching sessions at a local school throughout their course as part of various units’ assessment tasks. The supervision by the class teacher is on a goodwill basis without remuneration and TAFE Queensland North RATEP is very appreciative of participating teachers’ assistance in this regard.

What are the course start and end dates?
The course begins near the start of Term 1 2017 and Year 11 students conclude their first year of studies in line with their school’s Year 11 end date. The same applies for the Year 12 component of the course, which matches deadline requirements for submission of results to the QCAA towards the issuing of the QCE.

What are the entry requirements?
All applicants must complete an application form which includes a written recommendation by the school’s Principal, VET Coordinator or Senior Teacher for the student to undertake the studies. As well, applicants undertake a supervised online English and Maths assessment which is aligned to the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). However, this assessment is not required if the student can provide written evidence of a sound result or higher (ie. C or above) from their Year 10 studies in English and Maths.

When do applications open?
- Round 1 applications open Monday 4 October 2016 and close end of Term 4 2016.
- Round 2 applications open at the start of Term 1 2017 and close 3 March 2017.

What is the cost of the course?
The course was totally fee-free in 2016 through VET in Schools funding and is expected to have the same arrangement in 2017. (This includes schools not having to pay at all towards the course.)

Units of competency: The current course consists of the following core units:

- AIELIT300A Develop literacy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in culturally diverse workplaces.
- AIENUM301A Develop numeracy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in culturally diverse workplaces.
- AIEPAR303A Promote partnerships between school and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities.
- CHCF301A Support the development of children.
- CHCIC201B Communicate with children.
- CHCIC301E Interact effectively with children.
- CHCORG303C Participate effectively in the work environment.
- CHCPR301C Provide experiences to support children’s play and learning.
- AIEVAL406A Integrate Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural values in teaching practice.
- HLTWHS300A Contribute to WHS processes.
- AHCILM303A Work in an Indigenous community or organisation.

(One elective is also required to be completed to be awarded the qualification.)

For further enquiries please contact:
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