

Friday, 6 June 2025

Productivity Commission

<https://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/current/competition-analysis-2025>

### **National Competition Policy Analysis 2025**

The National Catholic Education Commission is pleased to make a short submission to the Productivity Commission's study to inform the development of reforms to National Competition Policy.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) is the peak body for Catholic education in Australia and is responsible for the national coordination and representation of Catholic schools and school authorities.

Working collaboratively with state and territory Catholic education commissions, NCEC advocates through effective liaison with the Australian Government, state and territory governments and key national education bodies. NCEC's role is to ensure the needs of Catholic schools are served through funding, legislation, regulation, and policy.

Australia's 1,755 Catholic schools educate one in five, or over 820,000 students, and employ over 112,000 Australians. Catholic schools are the nation's largest provider of education outside of government.

#### **IDENTIFIED REFORMS**

##### **Occupational licensing**

While the request to the Productivity Commission (PC) from the Treasurer, The Hon Jim Chalmers MP, for advice to support continued pro-competitive reform under National Competition Policy (NCP) focuses on the licensing of trades, NCEC has been advised that registration requirements for teachers is potentially in scope for the current analysis.

NCEC notes the reference in the Call for Submissions to the recommendations of the PC's 5-year Productivity inquiry: *Advancing Prosperity* regarding the potential to substantially improve productivity in services and the economic benefits from occupational licensing reform.

Teacher registration is presently managed by teacher regulatory authorities in each state and territory. Jurisdictional legislative and regulatory contexts influence each state and territory's approach to registration together with operational and administrative arrangements.

Jurisdictional teacher regulatory authorities operate within the *Framework for Teacher Registration in Australia* which was agreed to by Education Ministers in August 2024. The Framework consists of eight key of nationally consistent registration that describe the benchmarks for entry and continuing membership of the teaching profession across Australia, including the entitlement to mutual recognition in a second jurisdiction.

The Framework can be accessed through the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) (<https://www.aitsl.edu.au/docs/default-source/national-policy-framework/framework-for-teacher-registration-in-australia.pdf>).

NCEC believes that the current arrangements agreed to by Education Ministers is an appropriate mechanism for addressing national and local registration matters concerning teachers and the teaching profession.

Should further information be required in relation to this submission, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

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