

GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE**Learning and Teaching Committee – 8th March 2023****GTCS Consultation Outcome on Provisional Registration****Report by Vice Principal Curriculum and Quality Enhancement****1. Introduction**

This report updates members on the outcome of a consultation undertaken by the General Teaching Council Scotland (GTCS) on a proposal to create a provisional conditional category or registration for college lecturers who do have not yet achieved an appropriate teaching qualification. The attached letter confirms that the GTCS council have agreed to the proposed provisional registration category which will now allow all college lecturers to be registered with GTCS.

2. Creation of Provisional (Conditional) Registration Category

On 13th February 2023, Dr Pauline Stephen, GTCS Chief Executive and Registrar wrote to the College to confirm that their Council had agreed to the creation of Provisional (Conditional) category of Registration for lecturers who do have not yet achieved an appropriate teaching qualification. As set out in the attached letter (Appendix 1), this will enable the registration of college lecturers who have not yet obtained a TQFE and who were employed as a lecturer in a college in Scotland as of a set date. Individuals registered with Provisional (Conditional) Registration will be provisionally registered on the condition that they complete a recognised teaching qualification within a set time. Individuals who do not complete a recognised teaching qualification within this timeframe, and therefore failing to meet the condition placed on their registration, may be removed from the Register of Teachers.

GTCS state that more information about the process for registration will shortly be communicated.

3. Resource Implications

No equalities impacts are identified.

4. Equalities

No equalities impacts are identified.

5. Risk and Assurance

A relatively large number of College lecturing staff still have not achieved a TQFE qualification. Therefore, the decision by GTCS to create a Provisional (Conditional) Registration category will reduce the risk that lecturing staff are unable to become GTCS registered.

6. Data Protection

There are no data protection implications arising directly from this report.

7. Recommendations

Members are recommended to:

- i. note the contents of the report and its appendix.

8. Further Information

Members can obtain additional information on the contents of this report from Robin Ashton, Vice Principal Curriculum and Quality Enhancement.

Glasgow Kelvin College

RA

22/02/23



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Letter – Consultation outcome

13 February 2023

Dear Colleague

College Lecturer Registration – Next Steps

On 30 September 2022 I wrote to you to let you know that GTC Scotland, the independent registration and regulation body for teachers and college lecturers in Scotland, was consulting on a proposed professional standard – the Standard for Provisional Registration (Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges). The proposed new standard looked to support a transitional route to registration for a defined group of college lecturers who do not yet meet the criteria for full registration in the further education category of the Register of Teachers in Scotland.

I am now writing to confirm that following feedback, a new Standard for Provisional Registration (Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges) (SPRL) will come into effect on 3 April 2023.

From this date time limited, transitional registration arrangements will apply to a defined group of lecturers who are currently employed in colleges in Scotland and who do not currently meet the registration requirements for full registration.

Being assessed to meet this Professional Standard, SPRL, as well as meeting registration requirements set out in the Registration and Standards Rules 2015, will result in the award of provisional (conditional) registration in the category of further education on the Register of Teachers.

That means that if a lecturer is currently employed and is not eligible to register with GTC Scotland via another registration route then meeting the SPRL will allow them to apply for registration. This route to registration will be withdrawn once the existing workforce is registered with any date for withdrawal being informed by future discussions of the College Lecturer Registration Working Group (CLRWG).

The Standard for Provisional Registration (Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges) can be accessed using the following link – [Standard for Provisional Registration \(Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges\)](#).

Background

In March 2018 Colleges Scotland Employers Association and the EIS - Further Education Lecturers' Association (EIS-FELA) agreed that mandatory GTC Scotland registration was part of the outcome of national bargaining (NJNC Circular 03/18). As a result, registration with GTC Scotland now forms part of the agreed national terms and conditions of employment for all college lecturers employed in a Scottish

college under the harmonisation arrangements. Registration for college lecturers is not a legislative requirement as it is for schoolteachers, it is an employment requirement.

The registration programme began in autumn 2021. Under the Registration and Standards Rules 2015, GTC Scotland can and has registered lecturers who hold a recognised teaching qualification, or the equivalent for those qualified outside Scotland. Qualification is an enduring requirement of entering the one Register we hold – the Register of Teachers.

The Registration and Standards Rules 2015 form one of the main policy pillars for GTC Scotland and are our legal position in terms of registration requirements – essentially, they outline what it means to be identified as a teacher in Scotland. In 2021, we launched a consultation on our Registration Rules to reflect the many changes to Scottish education, teaching and our own policy context that had taken place over the preceding six years, including the introduction of mandatory registration for college lecturers. It was intended that new Registration Rules would come into place in April 2022.

In March 2022 we updated partners on the outcome of this work; in short, GTC Scotland's governing Council determined there was a need for further engagement. As a result, new registration rules did not come into place from April 2022 as originally planned and GTC Scotland has continued to operate within the Registration and Standards Rules 2015.

We have continued to work with our partners to seek an appropriate route for supporting current college lecturers to gain registration within our existing framework under the Registration and Standards Rules 2015. It was this proposed approach, namely the introduction of a Standard for Provisional Registration (Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges), that we were looking for views on through public consultation. GTC Scotland is legally required to publicly consult on any new or reviewed professional standard.

What was the outcome of the consultation?

The consultation opened on Friday 30 September for a 6-week public consultation period and closed on Friday 11 November 2022. All responses were subsequently analysed by an independent expert and this report can be accessed on our website using this link – [College Lecturer Registration Analysis Report](#)

Following feedback received, a further refined Standard for Provisional Registration (Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges) was agreed by GTC Scotland Council on 8 February 2023. This Professional Standard will come into use on 3 April 2023 as part of time limited, transitional arrangements for a defined group of lecturers.

What does this mean?

The enactment of this Professional Standard on 3 April 2023 supports a form of registration with GTC Scotland called provisional (conditional) registration. This route will be time limited, transitional and will be used for the registration of employed college lecturers who have not obtained a recognised teaching qualification, or the equivalent for those qualified outside of Scotland. This route will open on 3 April 2023 and will remain open for a time-limited period to allow for the registration and regulation of the individuals contained within the group. This route to registration will be withdrawn once the existing workforce is registered with any date for withdrawal being set by GTC Scotland and informed by future discussions of the College Lecturer Registration Working Group (CLRWG).

For Provisional (Conditional) Registration (PCR) to be applied, and in alignment with the existing Registration and Standards Rules 2015, GTC Scotland must be assured through the application process that any applicant has met the relevant Standard for Provisional Registration, with this Standard for Provisional Registration being the standard for entry to the Register of Teachers.

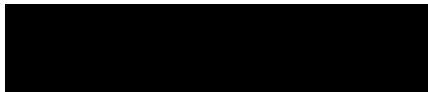
In line with existing and established arrangements, individuals registered with PCR are provisionally registered on the Register of Teachers, on the condition that they meet their condition of registration within a set period of time. In the case of college lecturers, the condition attached will be the requirement to obtain a recognised teaching qualification within five years of registration. Individuals who do not complete a recognised teaching qualification within this timeframe, and therefore failing to meet the condition placed on their registration, may be removed from the Register of Teachers in accordance with GTC Scotland's current Registration and Standards Rules 2015.

What happens next?

Partnership working has been a strong feature of supporting the registration of lecturers. We continue to work very closely with colleagues on the College Lecturer Registration Working Group and, together we are planning various joint engagement sessions to raise awareness and build on the momentum of earlier phases of registration. More information about these engagements and the process for registration will be communicated shortly.

Thank you again for contributions made to the recent consultation which has informed the process. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Yours faithfully



Dr Pauline Stephen
Chief Executive and Registrar