

Accreditation currency

Accreditation currency supports the ongoing learning of accredited teachers and leaders and recognises that staff continue to grow in their understandings of the Lutheran identity of the school or early childhood service through their years of service. Learning opportunities that support Accreditation currency are to be aligned to [Growing deep: Leadership and formation framework](#).

Accreditation currency is renewed every five years once the required Accreditation status has been achieved.

Accreditation to teach (At) 25 hours of learning over five years (related specifically to spirituality, theology, strengthening Lutheran identity)

Accreditation to teach Christian Studies (Ac) 50 hours of learning over five years (25 hours to spirituality, theology, strengthening Lutheran identity and 25 hours related specifically to the teaching of Christian Studies: theology and pedagogy)

Accreditation as a leader (ACL or AL) 50 hours over five years (25 hours to be related specifically to spirituality and theology and 25 hours related to leading and strengthening Lutheran identity)

eg Accreditation as a leader (ACL or AL) requires 50 hours of learning over five years which could be attained through attendance at the annual principal retreats (generally these are equivalent to at least two days a year).

Schools and ECSs provide many ways for staff to continue their learning about Accreditation currency includes learning such as:

- Staff spiritual retreats
- Staff Bible studies not including staff devotion
- Professional theological reading or podcasts with reflections
- Webinars with a spiritual or theological focus
- Attendance at professional learning with a theological or spiritual focus
- Attendance at professional learning with a focus on worship or devotions, pastoral care, service learning
- Higher education units in theology
- School based Christian Studies workshops with a focus on improving learning and teaching of Christian Studies
- Attendance at Christian Studies focussed professional learning
- Attendance at Christian Studies or Religious Education professional learning such as Dialogue Australasia Networks
- Attendance principal retreats
- Higher education units in theology and/or leadership

Lutheran education will provide a range of workshops and offerings through which staff can be supported with Accreditation currency.

Accreditation currency is also an expectation of part time staff and is determined in consultation with the principal to ensure equivalency of learning and development for part time staff. Staff members on extended leave have the Accreditation currency due date extended to correspond with their leave. LEXICON administrators can email LEA (lea@lutheran.edu.au) to have the renewal date updated accordingly.

Record keeping for Accreditation currency

Option 1 School responsibility

The school keeps a record of the professional learning undertaken by staff that relates to Accreditation currency such as staff retreat days, Christian Studies staff meetings etc in the HR management system. (This

is often the practice in larger schools where the Human Resources department keeps records for staff and provides a printout each year.)

or

The school records the professional learning that relates to Accreditation currency in LEXICON in the Training section. We have developed an [instructional video](#) and the [LEXICON handbook](#) also provides further information on how this can be achieved.

Option 2 Shared responsibility

The school and staff member keep records of professional learning for Accreditation currency. The school keeps a record in the training section of LEXICON of attendees on retreat days, professional learning in Christian Studies. The staff member files certificates of professional learning undertaken, eg Christian Studies workshops, Dialogue Australasia workshops. The school may also choose to provide certificates for school-based offerings so that staff members can also keep a record.

Option 3 Staff responsibility

The staff member keeps a record of their professional learning for Accreditation currency in similar ways as required for teacher registration. Some states have capacity for this to be recorded in the teacher registration portal.

LEXICON recording

LEA will advise staff when their currency date will need renewing upon achieving their Accreditation status and one year prior to their renewal date.

Schools are encouraged to use LEXICON to run a Theological Status Report each year to identify those staff who will need to renew their Accreditation and advise the staff to gather their documentation. The school may also provide any school records of professional learning such as staff retreats that meet the Accreditation currency expectations. These may have been recorded in the Training section of LEXICON or the school HR system.

To renew the Accreditation currency, the principal and/or professional learning coordinator meet with the staff member to review the records. They determine if currency has been achieved and the Accreditation currency date is renewed in LEXICON. If Accreditation currency has not been achieved, the principal works with the staff member to develop an appropriate plan.

LEA can provide information about renewing the Accreditation currency date or enter the data for schools.

What might this look like in practice?

Example 1

A school provides a day each year for a staff spiritual and theological retreat. Attendance is recorded on the school HR system or in the training section of LEXICON. Christian Studies teachers engage with a Christian Studies curriculum improvement workshop in lieu of a staff meeting each term with a focus on an aspect of theology or pedagogy facilitated by the CS leader or regional CS leaders. The school records attendance in their HR system or in the training section of LEXICON. Accreditation currency dates are renewed in LEXICON each five years after a meeting between the teacher and principal.

Example 2

Each teacher has a professional learning plan that includes a section that relates to Accreditation. In the first three years of service the focus of the professional learning plan will involve the completion of Connect (At) and Christian Studies teachers will also complete Equip 1 and 2 (Ac). It is the responsibility of individual staff members to document their professional learning that attends to Accreditation. Each year the school involves staff in a retreat day and promotes the regional Christian Studies workshops for Christian Studies teachers as a way of supporting Accreditation currency. The school records attendance in their HR system or in the training section of LEXICON. Accreditation currency dates are renewed in LEXICON each five years after a meeting between the teacher and principal.