The Brumby Government is continuing to promote teaching to non-traditional recruitment areas and strengthen its links with universities to ensure a highly-skilled workforce.

A host of initiatives have been developed to assist principals to attract, recruit and retain quality staff.

**Fast facts:**

- The Maths and Science Graduate Scholarship provides for 50 scholarships with total benefits of up to $9000, to be awarded annually over three years.
- 84 trainees have qualified since 2005 under the Career Change Program.
- 34 teachers commenced studies in 2008 to complete special education qualifications.
- More than 1200 scholarships have been awarded under the Teaching Scholarship Scheme since 2001.
- Refresher courses enabling teachers returning to the profession to update their knowledge are provided in metropolitan and regional locations annually.
- In 2008/09 there are 50 Early Childhood Teacher Scholarships for Pathway Students with benefits totaling $6000 available for staff currently working in long day care centers to upgrade their qualifications.
- Incentives for Early Childhood Teachers in Long Day Care provides incentive packages of up to $24,000 for recently graduated early childhood teachers to take up employment as a teacher in a funded kindergarten program.
- More than 1090 student teachers have benefitted from the Student Teacher Practicum Scheme provides student teachers with financial incentives to undertake placements in rural and outer metropolitan schools.
- Ten refresher courses are provided in metropolitan and regional locations annually with more than 800 teachers having participated.
- 1017 teachers have been appointed in 2009 under the Teacher Graduate Recruitment Program.