

An Roinn Oideachais agus
Eolaíochta
Rannóg Múinteoirí
Iarbhunoidreachais
Corn a Madadh,
Átha Luain,
Co Na hÍarmhí



Department of Education
and Science
Post Primary Teachers Section
Cornamaddy,
Athlone,
Co. Westmeath

Circular PPT 17/04

To: The Chief Executive Officer of each Vocational Education Committee

Protection of Employees (Part-Time Work) Act 2001 – Qualification requirements for the purposes of pro-rata entitlements in the VEC Sector

Following discussions between the Department of Education and Science, the Irish Vocational Education Association and the relevant teacher unions the following approach has been agreed in respect of qualified teachers employed in mainstream second level schools, (including Post Leaving Certificate Courses) Traveller Training Centres, VTOS Centres, the Prison Service, Youthreach centres or other similar recognised exchequer funded educational institution as agreed from time to time.

A. General.

- (i) responsibility for the appointment or re-appointment of a teacher at VEC level is a matter for the individual VEC concerned which is required to be satisfied that the appointee is suitably qualified for the post advertised in accordance with procedures laid down by the Department of Education and Science from time to time.
- (ii) in the appointment or re-appointment of a teacher in accordance with
 - (i) above, VECs should have regard to the desirability of such teacher(s) having a Training-in-Teaching qualification.

B. Pro-rata Contract holders.

- (iii) where, in accordance with (i) above, a part-time teacher appointed in the VEC sector is suitably qualified, the pro-rata contract entitlements

of the teacher should not be affected by reason only of the fact that the teacher engages in teaching an additional subject throughout the full school year, including special needs teaching, and any such hours where assigned before 1st November throughout the full year should be included in the pro-rata contract.

(iv) where the additional hours referred to at (iii) above are delivered on an intermittent or occasional basis, such hours should not form part of the pro-rata contract but should be remunerated at the appropriate personal qualified rate.

C. Casual and Non-casual contracts.

(v) teachers appointed on a casual or non-casual basis who hold the basic academic qualifications required for permanent whole-time appointment in any of the recognised curriculum subjects together with the necessary qualification in Irish where required, should have an entitlement to the appropriate qualified rate of payment (i.e. casual rate or personal qualified rate) in respect of such hours.

D. Unqualified Teachers.

- (vi) teachers appointed to a part-time contract who are not suitably qualified as for permanent appointment, should be paid the unqualified hourly rate.
- (vii) in the event that appointments under (vi) above take place, such appointments shall not result in an entitlement on the part of the VEC involved to make any additional or compensatory appointment(s) to meet any deficit in provision arising as a consequence of such appointment.

The terms of this circular should be implemented with effect from 20 December 2001.

Any communication with the Department in relation to the content of this letter should be e-mailed by the VEC to allocations@education.gov.ie.

A. Barrett
Principal Officer
November 2004.

