1. In 2015, the Queensland Government committed to transform and modernise the teaching profession under the *Letting Teachers Teach* initiative and establish two new classifications called Highly Accomplished Teacher (HAT) and Lead Teacher (LT), aligned to the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* (APST), for which teachers would be able to apply for recognition in 2019.
2. Eligible teachers who choose to apply to become certified as HAT or LT are assessed through an application and certification process that meets the requirements of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership *Guide to the Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers in Australia*.
3. Certifying Authorities in each jurisdiction oversee and moderate the assessment of applicants by Assessors, and make the final certification decisions against the APST as the common national reference. Successfully certified teachers are nationally recognised and registered.
4. The Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) is an existing Statutory Authority which carries out a regulatory and registration role for Queensland teachers.
5. For the Department of Education Pilot in 2017 and 2018, it successfully undertook the Certifying Authority role on a temporary basis within its current legislative framework.
6. The Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Amendment Bill 2019 expands the role of the QCT to perform the necessary functions of a Certifying Authority for HAT and LT on an ongoing basis by:
   * prescribing new functions for the QCT to perform the role of a Certifying Authority for HAT and LT in accordance with the APST, including being able to engage and deliver training to other entities;
   * enabling eligible fully registered teachers who are employed in a Queensland school to be able to apply to the QCT for certification and renewal of certification at HAT and LT career stages;
   * providing for fees to be paid to the QCT by applicants for the certification process;
   * allowing the QCT to maintain a record of certified teachers; and
   * providing for an internal review process for QCT decisions, with a further option of an external review by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal, to which other appeals against QCT decisions are directed.
7. Cabinet approved that the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Amendment Bill 2019 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
8. *Attachments*

* [Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Amendment Bill 2019](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)