

Personal Details

Fact Sheet

The objective of the *Teacher Registration (Northern Territory) Act 2004* (the Act) is to ensure that only persons who are fit and proper, appropriately qualified and competent to teach, are employed as teachers in the Northern Territory. The Act now contains provisions pertaining requiring that the Board be notified of certain information by teachers, employers and other government agencies such as Police and the Director of Public Prosecutions. It is an offence to provide false or misleading information to the Board. However people who provide information to the Board acting in good faith are protected.

What are personal details?

The definition of personal details has changed in the new Act. Personal details, as defined by the Act, includes the following information:

- Name;
- Residential address;
- Private telephone numbers;
- Email address; and
- Details of any physical or mental impairment, disability, condition or disorder, including substance abuse or dependence that may affect your eligibility for registration or authorisation.

You need to report your personal details to the Board when:

- Making an application for registration or authorisation;
- Renewing your registration; or
- Your personal details change

Who needs to provide Personal Details to the Board?

The following cohorts are required to provide their personal details to the Board, and must advise the Board of any change to their personal details within 90 days:

- A registered teacher;
- A person working as a teacher under an authorisation;
- A person making an application for registration; or
- A person for whom an employer is making an application for authorisation.

Why do I need to provide details of physical and mental impairment?

The Board has refined the definition of Personal Details to clarify the type of health information that needs to be reported to the Board. This is an effort to ensure the safety of children and young people in schools, and to better enable to Board to perform its function of ensuring that only persons who are fit and proper and competent are registered to be teachers in the Northern Territory.

Not all physical and mental impairment needs to be notified to the Board. For example, the Board will not expect teachers to notify the Board of things like needing prescription glasses, broken bones or short term, minor illness.

The Board are interested in serious significant impairment that affects your competence and your fitness and propriety – in other words, your ability and suitability to adequately perform the role of a teacher and to work safely and appropriately with children.

Any changes to a teacher's physical or mental condition need to be notified to the Board in accordance with the requirement to notify the Board of changes to personal details.

The Board may consider this information when determining whether a person is fit and proper to teach children. The Board is in the process of developing a policy to further clarify the Board's consideration and management of this information.

For more information on Personal Details, refer to the future policy on the Board's website www.trb.nt.gov.au, or you may choose to seek legal or other external advice.