



Queensland

# **Education Legislation (Life Skills Instruction) Amendment Youth Act 2025**

## **Youth Act No. 2 of 2025**

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**A Youth Bill for a Youth Act to amend the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, the Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014 and the Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Regulation 2014 to make life skills instruction mandatory, and for related purposes**

**[Assented to 23 October 2025]**





## Queensland

# **Education Legislation (Life Skills Instruction) Amendment Youth Act 2025**

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## **The Youth Parliament of Queensland enacts—**

## 1 Short title

This Youth Act may be cited as the *Education Legislation (Life Skills Instruction) Amendment Youth Act 2025*.

## 2 Commencement

This Youth Act commences on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

### 3 Act amended

This part amends the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*.

## 4 Insertion of new ch 5A

After ch 5—

*insert—*

## Chapter 5A Life Skills instruction

## **76A Main purpose of the part**

- (1) The main purpose of this part is to increase Queenslanders' understanding of essential life skills.
- (2) The main purpose is primarily achieved by—
  - (a) empowering the Minister to make a framework for life skills instruction in schools; and
  - (b) obligating the Minister and principals of State and non-State schools to ensure the delivery of life skills instruction to students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

## **76B Meaning of *life skills instruction***

*Life skills instruction* includes teaching about one or more of the following—

- (a) respectful sexual and other relationships, including about consent, domestic violence, bullying, and community acceptance;
- (b) addiction, including in relation to drugs and alcohol, pornography and gambling;
- (c) accessing or interacting with government, the legal system, educational institutions and employers;
- (d) money and finances, including about budgeting, taxation, banking and employment benefits;
- (e) workplace rights and responsibilities;
- (f) persons with disability, including about different kinds of disabilities, ableism, discrimination and how to support persons with disability;
- (g) ethnicity and culture, including about different cultures, racism, xenophobia,

discrimination and the history of multiculturalism in Australia;

(h) political procedures, government and media in Australia, including about institutions of government, methods of civic engagement and how to understand media.

## Part 2 Framework for Life skills instruction

## **76C Minister must make framework for life skills instruction**

- (1) The Minister must approve a framework (the approved framework) for the provision of life skills instruction to students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 at State schools and non-State schools.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the framework may—
  - (a) include lesson plans, presentations, activities, worksheets, exemplars and other resources; and
  - (b) provide for the assessment, examination and testing of students.
- (3) The Minister must publish the framework on the department’s website.

## 76D Principal to ensure life skills instruction is provided

(1) The principal of a State school or non-State

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school that provides education to students in year 7, 8, 9 or 10 must ensure that the State school or non-State school provides life skills instruction to the students.

- (2) Subject to section 76F, the principal must ensure the life skills instruction is provided to the students in accordance with the approved framework.
- (3) The principal of a State school or non-State school must ensure each teacher delivering life skills instruction undertakes professional development relevant to the content of the life skills instruction provided to students.
- (4) For subsection (3), the professional development must be undertaken at least every 2 years.

#### **76E Chief executive to ensure life skills instruction is provided**

- (1) The chief executive must ensure that life skills instruction is provided to all students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- (2) Subject to section 76F, the chief executive must ensure the life skills instruction is provided in accordance with the approved framework.

#### **76F Modification of the approved framework by principal**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a student has undertaken a majority of their secondary education interstate; or
  - (b) a student has failed to complete prior life skills instruction at a previous school; or

- (c) a student is absent from schooling, including, for example, because of illness; or
- (d) the principal of a State school or non-State school believes that complying with section 76C, in relation to a particular student, is not practicable having regard to all the circumstances.

(2) The principal of a State school or non-State school may approve a framework (a *modified framework*) for the provision of life skills instruction to the student that is different from the approved framework.

(3) If the principal approves a modified framework under subsection (2), the chief executive and the principal must ensure life skills instruction is provided to the student in accordance with the modified framework.

(4) A student who has completed a modified approved framework is taken to have completed the life skills instruction as if the life skills instruction was provided in accordance with the approved framework.

#### **76FA Modification of the approved framework by principal—relevance, values or religious beliefs**

(1) This section applies if the principal of a State school or non-State school believes that complying with section 76C, in relation to all the students at the school, is not appropriate because—

- (a) the approved framework is not generally relevant to the students at the school; or
- (b) the approved framework is not in accordance with the values of the school; or

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- (c) the approved framework is not in accordance with the religious beliefs and teaching of the school.
- (2) The principal may approve a framework (a *modified framework (relevance or values)*) for the provision of life skills instruction to the students that is different from the approved framework.
- (3) If the principal approves a modified framework (relevance or values) under subsection (2), the chief executive and principal must ensure life skills instruction is provided to the students in accordance with the modified framework (relevance or values).
- (4) A student who has completed a modified framework (relevance or values) is taken to have completed the life skills instruction as if the life skills instruction was provided in accordance with the approved framework.

## Part 3

# **Amendment of Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014**

### **5      Act Amended**

This part amends the *Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014*.

### **6      Insertion of new s 9A**

After section 9—

*insert*—

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## 9A Syllabus for life skills instruction

- (1) The authority has the following functions relating to syllabuses for the life skills instruction—
  - (a) developing and revising the syllabuses;
  - (b) purchasing and revising syllabuses for the life skills instruction developed by another entity.

*Note—*

If the authority performs a function under this provision, it must give notice under section 88(1)(a).

- (2) A syllabus for life skills instruction must be consistent with any framework for life skills instruction approved under the *Education (General Provisions Act)*, section 76C.

## 9B Senior subject entitled ‘Life Skills’

- (1) The authority must, under section 9, develop and maintain a syllabus for a senior subject entitled ‘Life Skills’.
- (2) The authority must—
  - (a) ensure the syllabus aligns with any framework for life skills instruction approved under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*, section 76C; and
  - (b) before developing, reviewing, purchasing or revising the syllabus, consult with an advisory group of at least 12 persons established by the authority and comprising the following—
    - (i) at least one person with at least 10 years’ experience as a teacher;
    - (ii) at least one person with at least 10 years’ experience in the community services sector;

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- (iii) at least one person under 18 years;
- (iv) at least one person from a regional, state or national student advocacy or support entity.

**7 Amendment of s 12 (Supporting schools and approved providers of education and care services)**

(1) Section 12(1)—

*insert*—

(ba) life skills instruction

(2) Section 12(1)(ba) and (c)—

*renumber* as section 12(1)(c) and (d).

(3) Section 12(2)(a) and (b)(i) and (ii), after ‘Australian curriculum’—

*insert*—

, life skills instruction

(4) Section 12(2)(c), ‘subsection (1)(a) and (b)’—

*omit, insert*—

subsection (1)(a) to (c)

**10 Amendment of s 87B (Authority must give notice of performance of particular functions)**

Section 87B(1)(a)—

*omit, insert*—

- (a) a syllabus for a senior subject, life skills instruction or P–10 subject that it purchases, develops or revises under section 9, 9A or 10; or

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**11 Amendment of s 92 (Regulation-making power)**

Section 92(2)(d), after ‘senior subject’—

*insert*—

life skills instruction

**12 Amendment of sch 2 (Dictionary)**

(1) Schedule 2—

*insert*—

*life skills instruction* see E(GP) Act, section 76B.

**Part 4**

**Amendment of Education  
(Queensland Curriculum and  
Assessment Authority)  
Regulation 2014**

**13 Regulation amended**

This part amends the *Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Regulation 2014*.

**14 Amendment of s 58A (Definitions)**

Section 58A, after ‘senior subjects’—

*insert*—

and life skills instruction

**15 Amendment of s 58C (Application for declaration of  
eligibility—external senior assessment)**

Section 58C, after ‘senior subject’—

*insert*—

or life skills instruction