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Early career teachers wanted for survey

Participants wanted for large-scale study of teacher education in Australia. Natasha Egan reports.

Researchers of a longitudinal study looking at the effectiveness of teacher training are calling for invited participants to respond to survey.

The deadline has been extended to Monday, May 14 for the Deakin University-led project titled Studying the Effectiveness of Teacher Education (SETE).

SETE is focusing on early career teachers in Victoria and Queensland in what the researchers describe as the first large-scale longitudinal study of teacher education in Australia.

Links to the first survey were emailed to eligible teacher education graduates in March and surveys to respondents’ principals will follow the end of May.

Research Fellow on the project, Dr Jodie Kline from Deakin’s School of Education, said they are asking for recipients to complete the survey so their experiences can inform the study.

“SETE provides an opportunity for early career teachers and principals to give feedback about how well teacher education is preparing teachers for schools across Queensland and Victoria,” Kline told Education Review.

The project will examine the effectiveness of teacher education in equipping early career teachers to meet the learning needs of young people in a range of schools, Kline said.

“This study will speak to relationships between a diversity of initial teacher education programs, the diverse requirements of schools, beginning teacher experiences in those schools and the development of effective teaching,” Kline said.

Deakin University has partnered with Griffith University, the Queensland Department of Education and Training, the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Victorian Institute of Teaching, and the Queensland College of Teachers to carry out the project.

Additional teacher surveys will be distributed in October 2012 and March 2013. Successive principal surveys will go out in November 2012, and May 2013.

SETE is supported by Australian Research Council funding and will run concurrently with the national Longitudinal Teacher Workforce Main Study.