

ABOUT THIS INITIATIVE

Professional Support Coordinator Queensland (PSCQ) is a sector and regional capacity building strategy and broker of professional development and support for the children's services sector in Queensland.

Through PSCQ, the Workforce Council coordinates professional development and support for eligible Queensland children's services which include those that receive Child Care Benefit, and Budget-Based child care services. It serves as a single access point for professional development within children's services across the state.

JET crèches, Indigenous playgroups and solely State Government funded services are not eligible for subsidised support under the Inclusion and Professional Support Program, but can still become members of PSCQ and access our professional support options.

The Australian Government through the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations funds the Workforce Council to operate PSCQ as part of the Inclusion and Professional Support Program.

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

All eligible Queensland children's services are encouraged to become PSCQ members, including Long Day Care, Outside School Hours Care, In Home Care, Family Day Care and Inclusion Support Agencies. Individuals working in this sector can also become members. Members pay a small annual fee and have access to innovative support opportunities such as the Staff Exchange Program; Remote Area Advisory Service; Resource and Advisory Service; the Big Picture Series and the In Service Contribution Program.

MODEL OF DELIVERY

PSCQ operates on a regional decision making and capacity building basis. Workforce Consultants based in Brisbane and Townsville facilitate 14 regional Professional Support Networks (PSN). These networks are made up of 8 to 12 educators working in eligible children's services.

Their role is to help identify and prioritise the professional development needs of educators in their area, and plan activities to meet these prioritised needs. Each regional network has an annual budget to allocate to the professional development and support that they plan in their region.

To assist with the identification of workforce and professional development needs the Workforce Council conducts an annual Workforce Survey and each Region conducts a Workforce Forum. The data from these sources is collated and analysed and fed back into the Networks to ensure a comprehensive needs identification and prioritisation process is implemented in each region each year. This data is also collated and examined for state-wide trends and needs and utilised to plan innovative state-wide strategies that meet these needs.

PSCQ offers many innovative professional development and support options and opportunities, some of which are free for eligible services such as: Specialist Equipment Pool; Bi-cultural Support; Professional Conversations for local support personnel; and others for which services pay a reduced fee for each activity, such as online learning sessions; locally planned peer support networks, one off and workshops series, conferences and much more.

