



**PORTFOLIO NAME: Teacher Training**  
**Portfolio Report**  
*Annual Report*

**Two motions were presented at the 2025 State Conference**

**A28 Goldfields Eyre Branch**

***“That ICPA (WA) continues to investigate the possibility that universities who offer a Bachelor of Education allow or encourage preservice teachers to spend time as home tutors on stations as part of their practical placements.”***

An email was sent to Rebecca Bope on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025 outlining the below;

ICPA WA is continuing to advocate for improved access to affordable, short-term accommodation for pre-service teachers undertaking regional practicums. This follows a 2024 meeting with Department of Education representatives, during which Pam Moss committed to investigating the use of existing Department facilities, particularly **camp schools**, for this purpose.

**Key Points:**

- ICPA WA fully supports the use of **camp schools** and additionally recommends the inclusion of **residential colleges** as viable accommodation options.
- Making use of these existing facilities would:
- Reduce barriers for pre-service teachers considering regional placements.
- Strengthen the teacher supply pipeline to rural and remote schools.
- Increase year-round utilisation of underused Department assets.

**Benefits Identified:**

- More feasible and appealing regional placements for education students.
- Long-term support for teacher recruitment and retention in the bush.
- Better use of infrastructure such as camp schools and residential colleges.

**Action Requested:**

- An update from the Department regarding progress or investigations into this initiative.
- Continued collaboration with ICPA WA to advance and support the concept.

A meeting with relevant parties was organised for September Face to Face meetings. Vicki McKewon, Rebecca Bope and Paul Matthews attended and discussions were held. It was stated that

timing has been an issue for pre-service teachers to use camp schools as their accommodation during their practicums as there is a risk of adults being in close vicinity to students.

Unfortunately, there was not a solution or a way forward that was visible at the time.

**S5 Lakes District Branch**

***“That ICPA (WA) advocates for the Minister for Education and the Minister for Tertiary and International Education to create financial incentives that encourage and support university students completing their practicum work placement as part of the Bachelor of Education in regional and rural areas.”***

ICPA WA has written to Minister Sabine Winton (Education) and Minister Tony Buti (Tertiary and International Education) to advocate for increased financial support for Bachelor of Education students undertaking practicum placements in regional and remote Western Australia.

While the upcoming Commonwealth Prac Payment of \$319.50/week (effective July 2025) is a welcomed initiative to reduce financial strain during compulsory unpaid practicums, it is insufficient to cover the full costs of travel, accommodation, and income loss associated with rural placements.

ICPA WA highlights that:

- Regional communities struggle to attract and retain qualified teachers.
- Positive practicum experiences in rural settings can lead to long-term workforce engagement in those areas.
- Targeted State-based financial incentives are needed to supplement federal supports and improve the uptake of rural placements.

The letter urges collaboration between the Ministers for Education and Tertiary Education to create a targeted support program for pre-service teachers completing placements in rural WA. The goal is to reduce financial barriers, encourage rural exposure, and address chronic teacher shortages in regional communities.

ICPA WA is seeking opportunities to meet with ministerial offices to further discuss this proposal and contribute to the development of supportive measures.

We are still awaiting response or update from both the ministers.

*COUNCILLOR NAME: Jasmine Carmody*

*DATE: 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026*