THE JAMAICA TEACHING COUNCIL ACT, 2013

(Act of 2013)

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

PART I. Preliminary

- 1. Short title and commencement.
- 2. Interpretation.
- 3. Object of Act.
- 4. Application.

PART II. The Jamaica Teaching Council

Establishment and Functions

- 5. Establishment of Jamaica Teaching Council.
- 6. Council's registration, licensing and authorization functions
- 7. Council's discipline and enforcement functions
- 8. Council's function to test applicants for registration, etc.
- 9. Council's other function
- 10. Primary consideration of Council in performing its functions.
- 11. Professional standards.

Board of Governors

- 12. Establishment of Board of Governors.
- 13. Ministerial directions.

Staff

- 14. Appointment of officers and other employees.
- 15. Pensions, gratuities and other retiring benefits

PART III. Registers

16. Registers.

- 17. Inspection of registers
- 18. Corrections of the registers.

PART IV. Restriction on Teaching Without Registration and Valid Licence or Authorization to Teach

- 19. Requirement for persons to be registered and licensed to teach, etc.
- 20. Requirement to employ, etc. registered teacher
- 21. Registered teachers to comply with conditions of registration
- 22. Offence of pretending to be registered or authorized to teach

PART V. Eligibility Requirements for Registration of Teachers and Authorization to Teach

- 23. Eligibility for registration
- 24. Eligibility for provisional registration
- 25. Eligibility for authorization to teach
- 26. Council may impose conditions to satisfy eligibility
- 27. Criteria for determining fit and proper person
- 28. Council may obtain police information, etc. in relation to fit and proper person

PART VI. Application for Registration or Authorization to teach

Application for registration Other than by Holder of Provisional Registration

- 29. Application of sections 23 to 32.
- 30. Application for registration, authorization to teach or licence, etc.
- 31. Obtaining information from Commissioner of Corrections.
- 32. Requirement to advise applicant of negative Police record.
- 33. Council's power to obtain further information, etc. from applicant.
- 34. Effect of failure by applicant to comply with a request for further information, etc.

- 35. Council may use documents or information to verify application.
- 36. How Council may decide application.
- 37. Steps to be taken after Council decides application.

Application for Registration by Holder of Provisional Registration

- 38. Application by holder of provisional registration.
- 39. How Council may decide application.
- 40. Steps to be taken after Council decides application.
- 41. Council may make regulations re test.
- 42. Person may apply for reassessment of test result
- 43. Application for registration may lapse after unsatisfactory test result.

Period, and Renewal or Extension of Authorization to Teach

- 44. Period and renewal of authorization to teach.
- 45. Application for renewal of authorization to teach.
- 46. Requirements for renewal of authorization to teach
- 47. How Council may decide application for renewal of authorization to teach
- 48. Steps to be taken after Council decides application.

Period and Extension of Provisional Registration

- 49. Period of provisional registration.
- 50. Option to extend provisional registration.

Review, Amendment and Removal of Conditions

- 51. Application for review of condition.
- 52. Review of condition by Council.
- 53. Amendment or imposition of conditions following a review.
- 54. Non-contentious amendment of conditions.

- 55. Cancellation of conditions.
- 56. Amending or replacing certificate of registration or certificate of authorization to teach.

Suspension or Revocation of Registration or Authorization to Teach for Failing to Comply with Condition

- 57. Application of sections 54 and 556
- 58. Council to give show cause notice for failing to comply with condition.
- 59. Council's power to suspend or cancel registration or authorization to teach.

Immediate Suspension and Revocation of Registration or Authorization to Teach by Council

- 60. Effect of charge for disqualifying offence, sexual offender.
- 61. Council's power to suspend if registered teacher poses imminent risk of harm to children.
- 62. Requirement to give notice of suspension.
- 63. When suspension takes effect.
- 64. When suspension ends.

Review of Continuation of Suspension

- 65. Requirement to decide whether to continue suspension under section 59.
- 66. Council to give notice inviting submissions to registered teacher.
- 67. The Council's decision about continuation of suspension.
- 68. Effect of suspension on registration or authorization to teach

Revocation

- 69. Revocation in particular circumstances.
- 70. Effect of appeal on revocation.
- 71. Disqualification order

Licence

72. Licence

Surrender of Registration, Authorization to Teach and Licence

73. Surrender of registration or authorization to teach.

Documents Evidencing Registration or Authorization to Teach

- 74. Form of certificate of registration.
- 75. Form of certificate of authorization to teach.
- 76. Requirements for licence and certificate of authorization to teach.
- 77. Replacement of certificate of registration, licence or certificate of authorization to teach.

Requirement to return Certificate of Registration or Authorization to Teach, etc. on Suspension or Revocation.

78. Return of certificate or authorization to teach, etc. on suspension or revocation

CPD Framework

79. Development of recognition of CPD framework by Council

PART VII. Professional Discipline of Teachers

Suspension without Inquiry

- 80. Council may suspend registration or authorization to teach.
- 81. Effect of suspension of registration.

Revocation of Registration or Authorization to Teach

82. Revocation of registration or authorization to teach without inquiry.

Powers of Disciplinary Inquiry

- 83. Powers of disciplinary inquiry.
- 84. Employer, etc. to notify Council of action against teacher or instructor

Investigations

85. When matters are to be investigated.

- 86. Outcome of investigation.
- 87. Council may determine to conduct a hearing.

Formal and Informal Disciplinary Hearings

- 88. Establishment and notification of an informal hearing.
- 89. Restriction on membership of Professional Practice and Conduct Committee.
- 90. Notice of an informal hearing.
- 91. Conduct of an informal hearing.
- 92. Findings and determinations of an informal hearing.
- 93. Change of informal hearing to formal hearing during course of hearing.
- 94. Establishment and notification of formal hearing.
- 95. Constitution of a hearing panel for a formal hearing.
- 96. Notice of a formal hearing.
- 97. Conduct of a formal hearing.
- 98. Findings and determinations of a formal hearing into conduct.

General Provisions Relating to Discipline Inquiries

- 99. Inquiry may continue even if person is no longer registered.
- 100. Procedure at formal and informal hearings.
- 101. Determinations.
- 102. Notice of revocations and determinations of panel.
- 103. Notifications.
- 104. Offence to disclose information identifying complainant, witness or teacher.
- 105. Enforcement of determination.
- 106. Revocation of suspension.

PART VIII. Appeals

- 107. Establishment of Teacher Appeals Tribunal.
- 108. Appeals to Tribunal

PART IX. Offences and Penalties Generally

109. Offences involving fraud and misrepresentation, etc.

PART X. General

- 110. Conditions for claimant to recover in proceedings.
- 111. Regulations.
- 112. Minister may increase monetary penalties and amend Schedules.
- 113. Amendment of Education Act

PART XI. Transitional Provisions.

- 114. Interpretation of Part
- 115. Current registration continues
- 116. Registration of persons not currently registered at the commencement date
- 117. Disciplinary proceedings under Education Act
- 118. Orders made under Education Act
- 119. Transitional regulations
- 120. References

SCHEDULES