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Guidance

Apply for mathematics and physics teacher retention payments

A pilot scheme to give eligible mathematics and physics teachers a £2,000 retention payment in the 2019 to 2020 and 2020 to 2021 academic years.

Published 23 May 2019

From: [Department for Education](#)

Applies to: **England**

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Register your interest

Teachers, schools and local authorities can use the forms below to register their interest and receive updates from the Department for Education.

[Register your interest as a teacher](#)

[Register your interest as a school or local authority](#)

Overview

This pilot scheme gives eligible teachers in the first 5 years of their career a £2,000 payment after tax.

Details about the application process and the first year payment process will be available soon.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for payment, teachers must meet the full criteria during the application window and in each payment year.

The full eligibility criteria is available below.

Regional eligibility criteria

Teachers must be employed in one of the local authorities specified below.

North east

- County Durham
- Darlington
- Gateshead
- Hartlepool
- Middlesbrough
- Newcastle upon Tyne
- North Tyneside
- Northumberland
- Redcar and Cleveland
- South Tyneside
- Stockton-on-Tees
- Sunderland

Yorkshire and Humber

- Barnsley
- Bradford
- Calderdale
- Craven
- Doncaster
- East Riding of Yorkshire
- Hambleton
- Harrogate
- Kingston upon Hull
- Kirklees
- Leeds
- North East Lincolnshire
- North Lincolnshire
- Richmondshire
- Rotherham
- Ryedale
- Scarborough
- Selby
- Sheffield
- Wakefield
- York

Opportunity areas not included above

- Blackpool
- Derby
- Fenland and East Cambridgeshire
- Hastings
- Ipswich
- Norwich
- Oldham
- Stoke-on-Trent
- West Somerset

Qualifications criteria

To be eligible, teachers must have completed at least one:

- UK undergraduate or postgraduate mathematics-related degree – G1 to G9 on the [JACS 3.0 principal subject codes](#)

- UK undergraduate or postgraduate physics-related degree – F3 on the [JACS 3.0 principal subject codes](#)
- equivalent non-UK degree
- initial teacher training (ITT) course specialising in mathematics or physics

Teacher status: QTS and QTLS

To be eligible for the payment, teachers must have either qualified teacher status (QTS) or qualified teacher learning and skills (QTLS) status.

QTS

Teachers with QTS must have been awarded this in the years specified in the table below.

Payment in academic year	Academic year QTS was awarded
2019 to 2020	2014 to 2015 up to 2018 to 2019
2020 to 2021	2015 to 2016 up to 2019 to 2020

The academic year runs from 1 September to 31 August of each year.

QTLS

Teachers with QTLS must:

- be a member of the Society for Education and Training (SET)
- have completed an initial teacher training (ITT) course in the years specified in the table below

Payment in academic year	Academic year ITT was completed
2019 to 2020	2014 to 2015 up to 2018 to 2019
2020 to 2021	2015 to 2016 up to 2019 to 2020

The academic year runs from 1 September to 31 August of each year.

Subject eligibility criteria

You must be employed to teach mathematics or physics to be eligible for the payment.

Teachers who are employed to teach mathematics or physics as part of

the broader curriculum will also be eligible.

Employment eligibility criteria

Teachers must be employed in a state-funded secondary, including middle-deemed secondary schools, in England, in either a:

- local-authority-maintained school
- academy or free school
- local-authority-maintained or non-maintained special school

Employment basis

Part-time and full time contracts

Teachers can be employed on either a part-time or full-time basis. Part-time teachers will get the same payment amount as full-time teachers.

Supply teachers

Supply teachers may also be eligible as long as they are:

- not employed by private agencies
- have a contract for at least one term

Teachers on leave

Teachers will also be eligible if they are on:

- annual leave
- sickness leave
- maternity leave
- paternity leave
- adoption leave
- military service, for example, as a reservist

Performance eligibility criteria

Teachers must not be subject to:

- formal capability proceedings
- disciplinary action

Teachers can still be eligible if they are no longer subject to formal capability proceedings or disciplinary action on 31 January of the same academic year.

Payment

Number of payments

Teachers will only get one payment for each academic year. For example, they will not get separate payments if they have more than one contract.

Salary and pensions

Teacher payments are not part of their salary or pensionable pay.

Income tax

You or your employing school do not need to pay income tax on any payment relating to this scheme.

National Insurance

You or your employing school do not need to pay National Insurance on any payment relating to this scheme.

Contact

If you have any questions about mathematics and physics teacher retention payments, please email financial.incentives@education.gov.uk.

Published 23 May 2019

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