

Annex B: Secretary of State's current accreditation criteria

The following criteria are specified by the Secretary of State in accordance with regulation 11 (2) of the Education (School Teachers' Qualifications) (England) Regulations 2003.

a. The potential new provider (PNP) must demonstrate in its proposal that:

1. It will meet the Secretary of State's current requirements for the provision of initial teacher training (ITT):

- trainees meet the stated requirements for entry to an ITT course,
- all aspects of the training and assessment meet the stated requirements,
- the training is based on a strong partnership with schools
- all the requirements for quality assurance are met

2. It plans to offer training that will enable trainees to achieve the standards required for qualified teacher status (QTS):

- the content of the training programme is closely matched to the standards required for QTS,
- trainees are rigorously assessed against each of the standards required for QTS.

3. It will provide training of high quality and ensure continuing improvement:

- among the schools to be involved there is proven expertise in ITT,
- all involved are committed to high quality training,
- all aspects of the training programme are evaluated regularly and rigorously
- the outcomes of quality assurance procedures are used systematically to bring about improvements

4. It can present a convincing rationale for its provision of ITT which:

- meets an identified demand for training places in a geographical area for a particular age range and/or subject, and does not duplicate existing provision,
- meets an identified need for teachers in a region or for particular subjects or age-phase specialisms, or
- adds to the diversity of choice available or attracts applications from groups that are currently under-represented in the teaching profession.

5. It will have a management structure that will ensure the smooth operation of the training programme:

- roles of individuals and the functions of groups and committees are clearly defined throughout the training partnership,
- staff are selected with the relevant experience and expertise,
- there are staff development plans for those contributing to the training
- trainees are assured access to suitable accommodation, facilities and resources

6. It will be financially viable and have detailed systems and procedures for financial management:

- provisions for financial control are secure and efficient,

- responsibilities for different functions are demarcated, with clear lines of accountability
- procedures ensure that best value is secured in the expenditure of TDA funding

b. The Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA) is satisfied that the proposed provision:

1. represents an efficient use of its resources, particularly in relation to ensuring good-quality provision
2. will help maintain a desirable balance between school-centred and other courses.

Criteria that lead to a consideration of withdrawal of accreditation

The following criteria are specified by the Secretary of State in accordance with regulation 11 (3) of the Education (School Teachers' Qualifications) (England) Regulations 2003.

The TDA will consider withdrawal of the accreditation of a provider:

1. where there is evidence of an accredited institution's non-compliance with the Secretary of State's current requirements, and/or
2. where a provider ceases to run all courses in ITT.