



Department
for Education

Initial teacher training allocations methodology

Guidance for academic year 2020 to 2021

September 2019

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Introduction

The Department for Education (DfE) is responsible for regulating the volume of trainee teachers in England where training leads to the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS). DfE aims to support recruitment across all initial teacher training (ITT) courses¹, with the objective of securing the right number of teachers to meet demand from schools in England, while ensuring efficient use of public funds and minimising significant over-supply of teachers.

This document provides guidance for accredited ITT providers and School Direct lead schools on recruitment permissions and the methodology for allocating training places to ITT courses that begin in academic year 2020 to 2021. In formulating the approach, DfE considered recent recruitment patterns, the number of postgraduate trainee teachers required in each subject as estimated by the Teacher Supply Model (TSM), sector feedback and the information supplied by ITT providers and lead schools during the request period in July 2019. We will publish the detailed TSM for academic year 2020 to 2021 in October 2019.

This guidance applies to academic year 2020 to 2021 only. DfE, or any successor organisation, may modify or amend the approach taken in future years.

Routes into teaching

A range of routes is available for people to train to become a teacher. These routes include (but are not limited to):

Postgraduate courses leading to QTS

Provider-led: where a tuition fee is payable to the ITT provider to cover the cost of training. Training places are held by the ITT provider.

School Direct (fee-funded): where a school partnership works with an ITT provider to which a tuition fee is payable to cover the cost of training. Training places are held by the lead school.

School Direct (salaried): where a school partnership works with an ITT provider and the trainee is employed within the school partnership. Training places are held by the lead school for the partnership in which the trainee is employed.

¹ The term 'courses' in this document refers to each subject and route combination. For example, *Physics School Direct (salaried)* is a different course to *Physics School Direct (fee-funded)*. Postgraduate and undergraduate routes in any given subject are also defined as different courses.

Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship: where a school partnership works with an ITT provider that is on the [Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers](#) (RoATP) and the apprentice is employed within the school partnership. Training places are held by the lead school on behalf of the partnership in which the apprentice is employed. This is an employment-based route where the trainee is employed for the duration of the course (a minimum of 12 months), which includes an additional apprenticeship end-point assessment following the award of QTS. More information on the Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship is available on [gov.uk](#).

Undergraduate courses leading to QTS

For undergraduate ITT leading to QTS, a tuition fee is payable to the ITT provider to cover the cost of training. Training places are held by the ITT provider and training is delivered alongside undergraduate study. Primary and Secondary courses are available and successful completion leads to the award of a BA, BSc or BEd degree as well as QTS.

Early Years courses leading to EYTS

There is a range of routes available for people to train as an Early Years teacher leading to the award of Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS). There are two graduate funded routes and an undergraduate route. DfE will only award EYTS to trainees who have completed training at an ITT provider with an Early Years ITT allocation.

Early Years teachers are specialists in early childhood development, trained to work with babies and young children from birth to five years old. EYTS is awarded to graduates who have been judged to have met all of the [Teachers' Standards \(Early Years\)](#) in practice from birth to the end of the [Early Years Foundation Stage \(EYFS\)](#).

Permission to recruit for academic year 2020 to 2021

In order to recruit trainees to ITT courses, an ITT provider or lead school must have permission to recruit from DfE. Permission to recruit allows ITT providers and lead schools to list their courses as open for recruitment and to access any DfE funding associated with training courses. In July 2019, ITT providers and lead schools were required to request permission to recruit by informing DfE of all of the courses, by subject and route, in which they planned to offer ITT for the academic year 2020 to 2021. Only ITT providers and lead schools that have met the eligibility criteria outlined in the [request guidance](#) can receive permission to recruit.

Recruitment categories

Courses delivered in the academic year 2020 to 2021 will fall under two categories: **unlimited** and **allocated**. A full list of the courses (subjects and routes) and their categories under the 2020 to 2021 methodology is available in [Annex A – Recruitment categories by subject and route](#).

Unlimited category

Recruitment to ITT courses in this category is **unrestricted, and this applies to the majority of postgraduate ITT courses²**. ITT providers and lead schools that submitted information on the courses in which they plan to offer ITT for academic year 2020 to 2021 in July 2019 have **maximum flexibility** to recruit as many trainees to these courses as required to meet local need.

Allocated category

Recruitment to ITT courses in this category is limited by the number of places allocated by DfE. ITT providers and lead schools that requested training places for courses in this category will receive an allocation of places, which gives permission to recruit to these courses. ITT providers and lead schools must not recruit beyond the total number of places allocated for each course. Please note that any instances of over-recruitment above allocated places will be investigated by DfE and could affect eligibility for funding and/or compliance with the ITT criteria³.

Courses have been assigned to this category where recruitment trends demonstrate consistently high demand from applicants, indicating the need to protect against the risk of over-supply or over-spend.

² Recruitment to the majority of courses is unlimited for 2020 to 2021 and will also be unlimited for 2021 to 2022, as outlined in the [Teacher recruitment and retention strategy](#)

³ This includes over-recruitment to cover anticipated pre-course attrition

ITT providers and lead schools who requested permission to recruit to any courses in the allocated category during the request period in July 2019 can [view their allocations on gov.uk](#).

PE (fee-funded) courses

Recruitment to PE School Direct (fee-funded) and PE Provider-led courses is limited by the number of places allocated by DfE. The number of places allocated for courses starting in academic year 2020 to 2021 is based on the allocations issued in 2019 to 2020, with a 10% uplift applied. ITT providers and lead schools who are new to delivering PE School Direct (fee-funded) and PE Provider-led courses have been allocated a proportion of the number of forecasted trainees they submitted during the request period in July 2019.

Undergraduate ITT courses leading to QTS

Recruitment to undergraduate courses for courses starting in academic year 2020 to 2021 is limited by the number of places allocated by DfE. ITT providers that requested undergraduate training places for academic year 2020 to 2021 have been allocated the trainee forecasts submitted during the request period in July 2019. ITT providers may request additional places if they have filled or are very close to filling their allocated places by contacting DfE at ITT.allocations@education.gov.uk.

Early years ITT: Postgraduate and undergraduate courses leading to EYTS

Recruitment to early years ITT courses leading to EYTS for academic year 2020 to 2021 is limited by the number of places allocated by DfE. ITT providers have been allocated their minimum requested number of places. ITT providers may request additional places if they have filled or are very close to filling their allocated places by contacting DfE at ITT.allocations@education.gov.uk. Additional requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Other considerations

PE with EBacc

The PE with EBacc scheme was introduced to allow ITT providers and lead schools to request additional PE places on top of their initial PE allocations. Trainees filling these places are required to train in an EBacc⁴ subject in addition to their main specialism of PE so that they are capable of teaching this in school.

The scheme will be continued for academic year 2020 to 2021. **ITT providers and lead schools were not able to request PE with EBacc places during the 2020 to 2021 request period in July 2019.** There is no separate allocation category for PE with EBacc courses because trainees are required to demonstrate the Teachers' Standards in PE only, while receiving additional training in an EBacc subject. Therefore, ITT providers and lead schools advertise one singular PE course and should make the details of the course clear to applicants in the course description. ITT providers and School Direct lead schools are responsible for the content and amount of additional training provided in the EBacc subject.

ITT providers and lead schools that wish to request additional PE places under this scheme should contact DfE at ITT.allocations@education.gov.uk once an application from a candidate meeting the eligibility criteria below has been received. The eligibility criteria is as follows:

- That all entrants meet the ITT eligibility criteria as detailed in the ITT criteria and supporting advice
- That all entrants have achieved a standard equivalent to a C grade or above at A level in the relevant EBacc subject

That the ITT provider or lead school is confident that the candidate is suitable for the course and has agreed to undertake the additional workload required to train in PE with an EBacc subject

Approval of these places will be decided on a case-by-case basis, considering overall recruitment to PE and the eligibility of the candidates who apply. There is no additional funding or bursary available for trainees on PE with EBacc courses.

Primary with Maths

All ITT providers and lead schools were able to request permission to recruit to Primary with Maths courses during the request period in July 2019. Primary with Maths courses

⁴ EBacc includes English language and literature, maths, physics, biology, chemistry, computer science, geography, history and languages

provide additional training in maths while preparing trainees to teach the full primary curriculum. These trainees must demonstrate the Teacher's Standards for Primary only, but receive additional maths training. **Trainees filling these places must have achieved a minimum of the standard equivalent to a grade B at A level in maths** to be eligible for an ITT bursary or for their employing school to receive a School Direct (salaried) grant. Trainees who have not achieved a minimum of the standard equivalent to a grade B at A level in maths may still join a Primary with Maths course, but will **not** be eligible for funding. ITT providers and lead schools may wish to put in place extra support to ensure that any such trainee is able to meet the specific conditions of the course.

Multiple Year Allocations

Multiple Year Allocations offered longer-term stability and planning opportunities by giving the top 25% performing ITT providers a guaranteed number of postgraduate ITT places for future recruitment cycles. Providers who have been awarded Multiple Year Allocations (MYA) in previous cycles have received at least their guaranteed number of places for PE (fee-funded) courses, and have maximum flexibility to recruit to unlimited courses. ITT providers who were awarded MYA in academic year 2019 to 2020 will retain this guarantee up to and including courses starting in academic year 2021 to 2022. For a list of providers who retain the award, visit the [ITT official statistics page](#) where the MYA methodology for 2019 to 2020 is published.

ITT funding

DfE is responsible for managing grant funding for postgraduate and undergraduate ITT courses. Information on ITT funding for academic year 2020 to 2021, including bursaries, scholarships and grants for salaried courses, will be published in autumn 2019.

Over-supply contingency

In the unlikely event of over-supply, where there is significant and undesirable over-supply in an unlimited course, DfE reserves the right to stop recruitment. An identical 'reserve power' was included in the previous methodologies for unlimited courses, but was not used. Any stop notice may ask ITT providers and lead schools to close courses on Find/UCAS immediately. ITT providers and lead schools will then have a minimum notice period of five working days to process applications received before the stop notice. Any stop notice will also include any further conditions relating to this requirement, such as the date on which ITT providers and lead schools must stop making offers. Applications received after the date on which ITT providers and lead schools are required to close courses may not be considered, except where a candidate who has dropped out is being replaced or where an ITT provider has yet to recruit to their guaranteed places under the MYA policy.

Data accuracy

Please note any data entry inaccuracies could have a direct impact on receiving permission to recruit or allocations in subsequent years. For accredited ITT providers, failure to comply with DfE data requirements is grounds for consideration of withdrawal of accreditation as stated in the [ITT criteria and supporting advice](#).

Annex A: List of designated ITT subjects

Recruitment to all subjects listed below is unlimited for postgraduate ITT for academic year 2020 to 2021, with the exception of those marked with an asterisk.

Early Years

- Early years graduate entry route*
- Early years graduate employment-based route*
- Early years undergraduate entry route*

Primary

- Primary
- Primary with Maths

Secondary

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Citizenship
- Classics
- Computing
- Dance
- Design & Technology
- Drama
- Economics
- English
- Food
- Geography

- Health & Social Care
- History
- Leisure & Tourism
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Modern Languages
- Music
- Physical Education*
- Physics
- Physics with Mathematics
- Psychology
- Religious Education
- Social Studies

* Recruitment to PE (fee-funded routes) and Early Years courses will be allocated for academic year 2020 to 2021.



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