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Guidance

Changes to checks for EU sanctions on EEA teachers

How schools should carry out pre-employment checks on teachers coming from the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (EEA) from 1 January 2021.

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 Last updated 31 December 2020 — [see all updates](#)
 From: [Department for Education](#)

Applies to: **England**

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From 1 January 2021 professional regulators in the EEA (EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) will no longer share information about sanctions imposed on EEA teachers with the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) via the IMI (Internal Market Information) system. Instead, teachers will be asked to provide a letter of professional standing.

From 1 January 2021 the Teaching Regulation Agency will no longer maintain a list of EEA teachers with sanctions.

Schools must continue to carry out safer recruitment checks on all applicants.

For applicants that have lived or worked outside of the UK, schools must make any further checks they think appropriate so that relevant events that occurred outside the UK can be considered, including obtaining an enhanced DBS certificate with barred list information (even if the teacher has never been to the UK).

Teachers will be requested to provide proof of their past conduct as a teacher. This should be a letter of professional standing issued by the professional regulating authority in the country in which they worked. Such evidence can be considered alongside other information obtained through other pre-appointment checks to help assess their suitability.

Read the Home Office [guidance on criminal records checks for overseas applicants](#).

Schools can also read:

- [Keeping children safe in education](#)
- [Teacher status checks - information for employers](#)

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