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National College for
Teaching & Leadership

Updated 26 June 2017

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Welcome to the June 2017 edition of the Teacher Recruitment Bulletin. This contains vital information which will help to support your initial teacher training (ITT) recruitment.

Please consider whether this bulletin reaches the correct people in your organisation, and cascade as appropriate. Additional contacts can subscribe to the Teacher Recruitment Bulletin by emailing school.direct@education.gov.uk.

1. Initial teacher training (ITT) allocations 2018/19 - request for places open until midday on Thursday 22 June 2017

All accredited ITT providers and School Direct lead schools should have received the communication

issued on Friday 2 June 2017, to confirm the window to request [initial teacher training places \(including early years\) for the 2018 to 2019 academic year](#).

If you have any further questions, please contact the Allocations team at itt.allocations@education.gov.uk.

2. Maximising recruitment

All courses that have filled should be closed on the UCAS teacher training (UTT) system; however, you are able to re-open a closed course and replace applicants who withdraw. Applicants who withdraw should be updated with a 'withdrawal' status.

Don't forget, you can recruit up to 25% more than your allocation in subjects (except PE) that are nearly full without incurring any penalty; this is in addition to the 10% tolerance for all category 1 and 2 subjects.

We strongly advise that conditional offers are given cut-off dates that are clearly communicated to applicants. If the condition remains unmet by the specified cut-off date, the offer should be withdrawn. Please refer to page 53 of the [UCAS Teacher Training Set-up Guide 2017](#) for further information.

Schools and providers should keep in contact with accepted applicants to ensure that they are planning to enrol and are likely to meet all specified conditions. Further guidance and tips are available in the [marketing and recruitment guide on GOV.UK](#).

3. Note to all providers: C1.3 compliance

We have received a number of enquiries relating to school experience as part of the ITT recruitment and selection process. We would like to offer the following clarification:

The ITT criteria and supporting advice, section C1.3 states that "providers should consider a wide range of evidence to judge applicants' suitability to teach, for example: information from application forms, referees' reports, advice from schools, results of any entry tests or task, applicants' portfolios, and interviews. ...the interview process might include, for example, classroom observation..."

While we recognise that school experience forms an important part of the selection process for ITT providers and their partner schools, the ITT criteria do not require school experience as a condition of entry to ITT programmes. We would urge providers and schools to exercise discretion and flexibility in their selection arrangements to ensure that high quality candidates are able to secure training places.

If you require further clarification, please email itt.accreditation@education.gov.uk.

4. Fill maths, physics, and modern foreign languages vacancies with a returning teacher

Return to teaching advisers offer a one-to-one bespoke support service to help returning teachers back into the classroom.

If you need to fill vacancies in mathematics, physics and modern foreign languages, we can put you in touch with potential candidates. Please contact returntoteaching.nctl@education.gov.uk.

5. Spain's Visiting Teachers programme - teachers now available

Your school can now access a candidate pool of qualified language teachers as part of Spain's Visiting Teachers programme.

Teachers from Spain have been through several stages of assessment including a rigorous interview process carried out by a team of school leaders from English schools. Teachers are available for schools to recruit now for the next academic year.

Roger Pope, Chair of the National College for Teaching and Leadership observed, "It was a privilege to meet so many committed and enthusiastic teachers. Many of them have worked all around the world so will bring a cultural richness, from Spain and many other countries, to UK schools."

Those employed will have access to bespoke continuing professional development on topics such as behaviour management, safeguarding and Spanish GCSE examinations, as part of their acclimatisation to teaching in England, at no cost to schools.

You can view [further information](#) on this unique opportunity or email spanish.vtp@education.gov.uk.

6. Subject knowledge enhancement provision

As part of the recent bidding round for schools to become teacher subject specialism training (TSST) providers, schools were invited to indicate their interest in also delivering subject knowledge enhancement (SKE) for trainee teachers. We are looking to increase this number.

You can view further information about the [SKE programme](#) and details of schools that are currently delivering or actively considering running SKE in the academic year 2017 to 2018.

If you have further questions please email ta.ske@education.gov.uk.

7. UCAS decisions and replies to candidates - reminder

We would like to remind all training providers to adhere to acceptable behaviours referenced in the UCAS published timescales, on page 3 of the [UCAS Teacher Training Admissions Guide 2017](#).

- If you need to close a course that is full, ensure you contact all applicants to that course to inform them of your decision
- If you do not do this, the applicant is left waiting for the system to "reject by default" (RBD) which loses them valuable time, particularly as we approach the late stage of the recruitment cycle
- Applicants' 10 working days to respond to offers only applies once all decisions on their applications have been received.

For further information, please refer to the [Guide to decision- and offer-making for UCAS Teacher Training providers](#).

8. UCAS summer recruitment pilot - reminder

Don't forget, the UCAS Teacher Training recruitment pilot starts next month. From Saturday 1 July 2017

until 6pm Monday 2 October 2017, the number of working days training providers have to make decisions on applications will be reducing from 40 to 20 working days.

Any applications received up to and including Friday 30 June 2017 will still have 40 working days consideration. During the pilot, applicants will still have 10 working days to accept an offer once all decisions on their applications have been received.

To make sure you are prepared, UCAS have developed pilot [FAQs](#). If you have any queries, contact their Higher Education Provider (HEP) Team at hep_team@ucas.ac.uk.

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