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National College for
Teaching & Leadership

Updated 26 June 2017

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Welcome to the May 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. Allocations and further flexibility to recruit - reminder

By now, you should have received direct communication regarding subject allocations flexibility, and seen the recent reminder in the UCAS Teacher Training bulletin.

To maximise recruitment in areas that have capacity, the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) will allow providers and schools who have achieved 90% or above of their current allocation, a recruitment level of 125% for all subjects excluding PE and undergraduate courses. Requests beyond this increase will also be considered on a case-by-case basis.

This offer applies to higher education institutes (HEIs), school-centred initial teacher training providers (SCITTs) and School Direct partnerships in all category one subjects (drama, history and primary, excluding PE and undergraduate courses); it applies to HEIs and SCITTs in all category 2 subjects (art and design, biology, chemistry, English and music), with School Direct partnerships continuing under the same methodology as before.

The 25% increase applies to each subject (excluding PE and undergraduate courses) individually, rounded up to the nearest whole number; so, an initial allocation of 10 places in English with a 25% increase will lead to a new maximum of 13 places. These requests need to be made via the NCTL Data Management System (DMS) in order to monitor overall allocations.

The recent communication of a 10% tolerance in each subject to allow flexibility and support ITT retention issues remains for all allocated subjects, including PE and undergraduate courses. Please note the 10% tolerance is in addition to the 25% increase for the subjects listed in paragraph 3.

For further information, please email itt.allocations@education.gov.uk.

2. International teacher recruitment framework tender exercise - for information

NCTL is currently commissioning a framework of suppliers to help schools and academies recruit, train and acclimatise international teachers relocating to England to teach maths, physics and modern foreign languages.

NCTL envisages these services will be directly available to schools and academies and welcomes bids from consortia including school and academy-led networks. A prior information notice was published on 27 March 2017 and a webinar was held on 18 April 2017.

For further information, and to view slides from the webinar, please visit [Contracts Finder](#) or email international.framework@education.gov.uk.

3. Confirmation of funding for EU students for 2018 to 2019

On 21 April 2017, the [government confirmed funding for EU students](#) who will continue to remain eligible for undergraduate, master's, postgraduate and advanced learner financial support in academic year 2018 to 2019.

Eligible EU nationals applying for teacher training courses in England starting in 2017 to 2018 and 2018 to 2019 will still be able to access tax-free bursaries or scholarships, and a tuition fee loan.

Under current rules, EU nationals can access this support if they are EU nationals on the first day of the

first academic year of their course or are a family member of such a person and have resided in the European Economic Area or Switzerland throughout the three-year period before the start of the course. They will continue to receive financial support even if the UK exits the EU during the period of their training course.

Eligible students who are able to access student support will be eligible for home fee status for the duration of their course, which means they must be charged the same tuition fees as domestic students.

Details of the funding breakdown can be found at [Student Loans Company](#).

4. Maths scholarship and support for candidates - £27,500

There are 200 maths scholarships available for trainees starting in September 2017.

Applicants with a 2:2 degree or above in a subject with strong mathematical content, or those undertaking a subject knowledge enhancement course in maths can apply; they will receive £27,500 tax free, 2 years' free membership to the main mathematics societies, access to teaching resources, free continuing professional development (CPD) events and visits throughout their training and newly-qualified teacher (NQT) years.

Please direct candidates to the [Institute of Mathematics website](#); for further information, email scholarships@ima.org.uk.

5. Spain's Visiting Teachers programme - candidate interviews now available

If you have registered for the programme, you will receive a link in mid-May providing access to interview notes, contact details and the specific skill-set of successful candidates who want to teach in your region.

You will now be able to arrange a final interview in school with candidates who have passed a face-to-face interview with a panel of experienced head teachers from England.

If you choose to recruit, the Department for Education will provide continuing professional development (CPD) on topics such as behaviour management, safeguarding and Spanish GCSE examinations as part of the acclimatisation training, as well as CPD opportunities to a nominated member of staff in your school who will act as a mentor for one year.

Schools can still [register](#) for the programme, and view [further information](#) on this unique opportunity.

6. Subject knowledge enhancement (SKE) helps improve teacher recruitment

Last year nearly 40% of trainee teachers in eligible subjects (maths, physics, languages, biology, chemistry, computing, geography, English and design and technology), accessed SKE prior to their teacher training.

SKE courses are fully funded; candidates receive a bursary of £200 per week.

As a school, you don't have to arrange SKE yourself; please contact a [SKE provider](#), who will be happy to

help on your behalf.

7. ITT funding team - change of email address

The ITT funding team email address has changed to itt.funding@education.gov.uk with immediate effect.

All messages sent to the old email, fa.team@education.gov.uk will automatically forward to the new address in the short term.

8. 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](#) to allow candidates sufficient time to make a decision following an offer.

Please be aware that:

- applicants are not obliged to reply until they have received all Apply 1 decisions
- all training providers have 40 working days to make a decision on an application
- applicants' 10 working days to reply begin 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](#).

9. UCAS summer recruitment pilot - reminder

Following feedback from applicants and providers, this summer UCAS will be reducing the number of working days a training provider has to make decisions on applications from 40 to 20 working days.

The pilot will run from Saturday 1 July 2017 until 6pm on Monday 2 October 2017. 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.

Please refer to the [UCAS Teacher Training bulletin](#) sent last month or to the UCAS pilot [frequently asked questions](#) to answer any questions you may have. Please also check future UCAS Teacher Training bulletins and [Yammer](#) for further updates.

For further information, please contact the UCAS Higher Education Provider (HEP) team on 0344 984 1111 or email hep_team@ucas.ac.uk.

10. UCAS Teacher Training provider satisfaction survey

Thank you to all who completed the UCAS provider satisfaction survey. There has been an increase in customer satisfaction, with 80% of respondents saying they were satisfied or fairly satisfied with the service they receive. [View the results of the survey](#).

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