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Department  
for Education

Guidance

# Teachers: claim back your student loan repayments - eligibility and payment details

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This scheme aims to increase recruitment and retention of teachers in languages, physics, chemistry, biology and computing.

You do not need to read this to make a claim, we will work out if you can get the payment based on the answers you give when claiming.

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## Eligible teachers

For the reimbursement period, you must be employed in a state-funded secondary, including middle-deemed secondary schools, in England, in either:

- a local-authority-maintained school

- an academy or free school
- a local-authority-maintained or non-maintained special school

You must still be working as a teacher in a state-funded secondary school in England when you claim back your student loan repayments.

You must have either:

- qualified teacher status
- qualified teacher learning and skills (QTLS) and membership of the Society for Education and Training (SET)

You must have completed your initial teacher training in one of these academic years:

- 2013 to 2014
- 2014 to 2015
- 2015 to 2016
- 2016 to 2017
- 2017 to 2018
- 2018 to 2019
- 2019 to 2020
- 2020 to 2021

## Eligible subjects

You must teach one or more of these subjects:

- languages
- physics
- chemistry
- biology
- computing

You must have spent at least 50% of your contracted hours teaching one or more of the eligible subjects during the year for which you are claiming. Schools may be asked to confirm this during the application process.

## Eligible schools

The school you worked for when you originally made the repayments must be in one of these local authority areas:

- Barnsley
- Blackpool
- Bracknell Forest
- Bradford
- Cambridgeshire
- Derby
- Derbyshire
- Doncaster
- Halton
- Knowsley
- Luton
- Middlesbrough
- Norfolk
- North-east Lincolnshire
- North Yorkshire
- Northamptonshire
- Northumberland
- Oldham
- Peterborough
- Portsmouth
- Salford
- Sefton
- St Helens
- Stoke-on-Trent
- Suffolk

## **The years you can claim for**

You can only claim back repayments you made in certain financial years, based on when you completed your initial teacher training.

If you completed your initial teacher training in:

- 2013 to 2014 you can claim for 2018 to 2019 up to 2024 to 2025
- 2014 to 2015 you can claim for 2018 to 2019 up to 2025 to 2026
- 2015 to 2016 you can claim for 2018 to 2019 up to 2026 to 2027
- 2016 to 2017 you can claim for 2018 to 2019 up to 2027 to 2028
- 2017 to 2018 you can claim for 2018 to 2019 up to 2028 to 2029
- 2018 to 2019 you can claim for 2019 to 2020 up to 2029 to 2030
- 2019 to 2020 you can claim for 2020 to 2021 up to 2030 to 2031

- 2020 to 2021 you can claim for 2021 to 2022 up to 2031 to 2032

## Payment

The amount we pay you is based on the amount you repaid to the Student Loans Company through pay as you earn (PAYE).

Payments are not part of a teacher's pay and should not be treated as pensionable payments.

Payments are subject to tax and National Insurance, but the Department for Education will pay this. Neither you or the school will need to pay income tax or National Insurance contributions on the student loan reimbursements.

You do not need to declare the payments to the Student Loans Company.

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