

Routes into teaching

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The steps to becoming a teacher

targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/teaching-and-education/advice/468042-how-do-you-become-a-teacher

To work as a teacher of children from age five to sixteen in state maintained schools (excluding academies and free schools) in England and Wales you need to have professional qualified teacher status (QTS). To be awarded QTS by the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) you must complete a period of training, such as a one-year Professional or Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) course or school-centred training, which recommends you for QTS. This is known as initial teacher training (ITT).

Newly qualified teachers (NQTs) then complete a period of induction, which is the first year of employment as a teacher in a school. NQTs are encouraged to start their induction as soon as possible after gaining QTS but there's no set time limit for starting or completing the induction.

Teachers in independent schools aren't required to have QTS, but most do. Many independent schools don't offer an NQT induction year.

It is possible to teach within further education without a teaching qualification, but career prospects are improved with one. For further information on teaching in other areas of the UK see our advice on training to teach in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

What age range do you want to teach?

All teachers with QTS are trained to teach within one of the following phases:

- **Primary:** typically across 3–7, 5–11 or 7–11 age ranges
- **Middle:** typically across 7–14 age range
- **Secondary:** typically across 11–16, 11–18 or 14–19 age range depending on the subject(s) of training

Once you have achieved QTS, it's legal for you to teach any age range, although it's not easy to move from one to another. Most teachers stay within the age ranges they trained to teach. If you want to change once you're qualified, you'll need to build up a portfolio of evidence to persuade the head teacher you are able to teach a different age range.

If you would like to teach children aged 0–5, you can pursue a course of early years initial teacher training, leading to early years teacher status (EYTS).

Teachers with EYTS specialise in early childhood development and may be employed in any early years setting including private, voluntary, maintained and independent establishments, as well as primary and nursery schools, free schools and academies in England that deliver the early years foundation stage.

What subjects can you teach at primary level?

Primary schools cover KS1 (5–7 year olds) and KS2 (7–11 year olds). In general, you'll need to feel confident about teaching the wide range of national curriculum subjects, which include the following compulsory subjects:

- English
- maths
- science
- design and technology
- history
- geography
- art and design
- music
- physical education (PE), including swimming
- computing
- ancient and modern foreign languages (at key stage 2).

In addition to these national curriculum subjects, primary schools must also teach religious education. They may also cover citizenship and personal, social and health education (PSHE).

Primary ITT courses are available with specialisms in a range of subjects. Incentives are available for training to teach as a primary maths specialist, teaching maths across the primary age range as well as supporting other teachers.

What subjects can I teach at secondary level?

ITT in secondary teaching entails a specialist subject, but once you've gained QTS, you're legally qualified to teach any subject. It's common to find teachers in schools teaching subjects other than those they specialised in during their teacher training.

Secondary schools cover KS3 (11–14 year olds) and KS4 (14–16 year olds), and sometimes post-16.

Compulsory national curriculum subjects are:

- English
- maths
- science
- history
- geography
- modern foreign languages
- design and technology
- art and design
- music
- physical education
- citizenship
- computing.

Schools must also provide religious education (RE), sex and relationship education (SRE) and careers guidance. Some schools additionally offer personal, social and health education (PSHE).

Schools also offer subjects outside this core list, for example, drama, dance, and media studies, and ITT courses exist to accommodate them.

Technical Awards, in subjects such as child development and graphic design, can be taken alongside at least five GCSEs by 14–16 year olds. Tech Levels can also be taken by 16–19 year olds alongside or instead of A levels. ©

Written by Abigail Evans, University of Oxford

What different types of school can you teach in?

targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/teaching-and-education/advice/468070-what-different-types-of-school-can-you-teach-in

Education in the UK falls into two sectors: state maintained and independent. An understanding of the system will help you to decide where you would prefer to work.

The information that follows applies to England. For variations in the other parts of the UK, see our advice on teaching in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

What are state maintained schools?

Within the maintained sector there are different types of schools which can be defined by who employs the staff, controls admission and owns the land and buildings. Combinations of local authorities (LA), school governing bodies and charitable trusts or religious organisations might be involved.

The main types of maintained school are:

- **Community schools:** wholly LA controlled.
- **Foundation and trust schools:** controlled principally by a trust and governing body.
- **Voluntary aided and controlled schools:** mainly religious or 'faith' schools run by a charitable foundation, often a religious organisation.
- **Academies:** may have businesses, faith groups or voluntary groups as sponsors. They are publicly funded by central government and have some freedom from the national curriculum.
- **Free schools:** newly-established by groups such as parents, teachers, charities or businesses. They are not-for-profit, government-funded schools which have some freedom from the national curriculum.

Most state-maintained secondary schools are all-ability comprehensive schools, but a few are grammar schools, which select pupils according to ability. Around 95% of maintained secondary schools have a specialism such as sports, arts, science, etc.

What is available in the independent sector?

The independent sector includes:

- **Independent schools:** no direct income from the state. These schools are sometimes called public schools or private schools and there are about 2,400 in the UK. They don't have to teach the national curriculum or employ teachers with qualified teacher status (QTS), although most do. Information about independent schools is available from the Independent Schools Council and the Independent Schools Directory.
- **Montessori schools:** follow their own teaching method and in the UK cater for children mostly from the ages of three to six though there are some primary schools. For more information see Montessori.
- **Steiner Waldorf Schools:** part of an international movement with a particular philosophy of education. Find out more at Steiner Waldorf Schools Fellowship. ©

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How to get the work experience you need to teach

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Training providers want to know that you have the skills and motivation to teach, and you'll usually be required to have experience of working with children of the relevant age – preferably in a school environment.

Many training providers stipulate that this experience should have been for a minimum of two weeks and prefer it to have been done in a state school. Getting classroom experience will also help to confirm that teaching is the right career for you.

If you're not able to complete the experience quickly, don't delay sending your application, but state in the application that you have experience arranged in the near future.

How do you get work experience?

Use your contacts through family and friends. You can also contact schools directly to ask for work experience or to observe classes or shadow teachers, and check details of schools using the Get Information about Schools service.

Work experience in schools is popular and it may take time to arrange a placement so try to plan in advance. There are also a number of formal schemes which can help:

- **School Experience Programme (SEP):** This is a programme for final year students and graduates interested in gaining experience in the classroom. School placements of one to ten days are available in all subjects, at secondary and primary levels, to those planning to apply for teacher training courses in the current cycle.
- **Student tutoring programmes:** Some institutions offer student tutoring programmes through which you go into schools to help with classes. These programmes are often available through university careers services or students' unions.

- **Undergraduate Ambassadors Scheme (UAS):** If you are a mathematics, science, technology or engineering undergraduate, your department may offer a classroom-based module. This would involve spending around 40 hours working in schools. It may also be possible for students of mathematics, science, technology or engineering to become STEM ambassadors, which involves enthusing school students about these subjects and the careers they open up.
- **Taster courses and open days:** These are organised by schools, universities and others (such as Teach First) to provide an insight into teaching and teacher training. Taster courses tend to be targeted at shortage subjects or candidates from under-represented groups.
- **Paid work:** You may be able to obtain paid work in schools as a cover supervisor, teaching assistant, laboratory technician or learning mentor, for example. These posts are usually advertised on local authority (LA) websites or through recruitment agencies. Some schools offer graduate assistantship schemes either as individual schools or through programmes such as Try Teaching.
- **Voluntary work:** Most LAs run schemes for voluntary mentors to work with pupils on a one-to-one basis. Contact your LA for more information. Many universities work closely with local schools to encourage pupils to consider higher education (HE).

Tips for work experience

- Keep a diary of any work experience you do; this will be invaluable when it comes to writing your applications or preparing for interviews.
- Write notes about anything that you experience. For example, if a lesson did not work, think about how you would do it differently.
- Think about classroom control, different teaching styles and effective uses of technology. ☺

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What are the entry requirements for a career in teaching?

To qualify as a teacher in England you must meet the following requirements:

- **GCSE grade C or above in mathematics and English:** for primary teaching you also need GCSE science grade C or above.
- **Professional skills tests:** in literacy and numeracy (if training in England). You must pass these before starting your teacher training course.
- **A degree:** for primary teaching some ITT providers prefer you to have a degree in a national curriculum subject. If you don't, you should talk directly to the training provider to see if they will accept your degree. For secondary teaching you'll need a degree in, or closely related to, the subject you would like to teach.
- **Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE) courses:** if you want to teach a shortage subject and your degree is not closely linked to it, your training provider may decide that you need to take an SKE course to boost your subject knowledge. These courses vary in length according to your need and may be done full-time or through part-time study or distance learning, either before or alongside your initial teacher training course.
- **Declaration of health questionnaire:** you may be asked to complete a declaration of health questionnaire before starting the ITT course. Any information you provide about disability is protected by the Equality Act 2010. If you have a disability it is advisable to make early contact with the training provider.
- **Declaration of criminal convictions:** the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, which allow convictions for criminal offences to be regarded as 'spent' after a period of time, don't apply to the teaching profession. You're required to declare any previous convictions. All trainee teachers undergo a criminal record check before starting school-based training. ☺

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What qualifications do you need to become a teacher? Overview of your postgraduate teacher training options

targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/teaching-and-education/advice/468072-what-qualifications-do-you-need-to-become-a-teacher

To teach in the state maintained sector you'll need to gain qualified teacher status (QTS) in addition to your first degree, unless you have completed a Bachelor of Education (BEd) or a BSc/BA with QTS.

There are a number of different training routes available which provide QTS, with the opportunity to train in different settings. Many of them offer the chance to gain a PGCE. To attain QTS you will also need to satisfy a range of criteria, outlined below.

targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/teaching-and-education/advice/468058-overview-of-your-postgraduate-teacher-training-options

There are several types of teacher training programmes available which lead to qualified teacher status (QTS). Whichever route you take, the training will be specific to the age group and/or subject that you want to teach. All involve learning the principles of teaching and gaining practical experience in schools, but there are significant differences in the way this is delivered.

In Scotland and Northern Ireland all teacher-training programmes are university or college-based. In Wales, most courses are university/college based, but there are some school-based places available on the Graduate Teacher Programme. See the advice on teaching in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland for details.

University-led Postgraduate or Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) or the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)

Higher education institutions (HEIs) throughout the UK offer courses leading to a PGCE/PGDE. The courses usually last one academic year if completed full-time, but part-time and flexible learning options are also available. You will attend classes at the university or college where you're based, and will also spend a minimum of 24 weeks for both primary and secondary courses on placement in at least two schools. Placements are arranged by the HEI with their partner schools. During your studies for the PGCE you can gain up to 60 masters-level credits, depending on your course, while for the PGDE you can gain up to 120 credits at masters level. The PGDE is offered by a small number of institutions with the same duration and fees as PGCE courses. You apply for both via **UCAS Teacher Training**

School-centred initial teacher training (SCITT)

SCITT programmes provide school-led training run by a consortium of schools and colleges. They're offered throughout England and most of the training is delivered by experienced teachers in the school setting. Usually you'll do the majority of your training within one school with further placements in other schools in the alliance. In addition to QTS, most SCITTs will also offer a PGCE validated by an HEI, with training provided by university staff. Courses typically last for one academic year full-time.

School Direct

School Direct programmes provide school-led training run by a lead school in partnership with a university or SCITT and other schools, mostly on a one-year full-time basis. School Direct programmes allow schools to select trainees and decide on the focus of training based on the needs of the school and the trainee. There is an expectation that you will be employed in the school partnership once qualified. Most School Direct programmes lead to the award of a PGCE in addition to QTS.

There are two differently-funded programmes:

- The School Direct training programme: open to all graduates and funded in the same way as a university-based PGCE or SCITT. Trainees pay tuition fees and may be eligible for a bursary and/or loans for fees and maintenance.
- The School Direct training programme (salaried): for graduates with usually three or more years' experience in any career since graduation. The trainee is employed as an unqualified teacher by the school and schools receive funding which they can use to subsidise the trainee's salary and/or training.

Teach First

The Teach First leadership development programme is an employment-based two-year programme completed in early years, primary and secondary schools that are in challenging circumstances. These are schools that experience high levels of poverty or underachievement among their pupils. It is also possible to specialise in early years teaching through Teach First. The programme is aimed at graduates with a 2.1 or above.

Successful candidates start as unqualified teachers and work towards a postgraduate diploma in education (PGDE) qualification that integrates teacher training and leadership development, and which includes credits at masters level, over two years. The programme leads to QTS after the first year, and all participants have the option to work towards a full masters qualification.

Early years initial teacher training

Those who want to teach children up to the age of compulsory education (age 5), can follow a course of early years initial teacher training. This leads to early years teacher status (EYTS) which is deemed to be equivalent to QTS.

Early years initial teacher training programmes are available in the following forms:

- **Graduate entry:** a 12-month full-time academic course that includes school placements.
- **Employment-based graduate entry:** part-time 12-month programme for those already employed in an early years setting.
- **School Direct (Early Years):** a number of places are available with groups of schools or nurseries with the expectation of employment after gaining EYTS.

Researchers in Schools

Researchers in Schools (RIS) is a salaried two-year teacher training programme based in non-selective state schools across England for researchers who have completed, or are about to complete their PhD. The aim of the programme is to increase subject expertise, promote research and champion university access within schools. You are supported to achieve QTS in the first year and NQT status in the second year. An optional third year offers the opportunity to join the Subject Leader Programme to work towards the RIS Research Leader in Education (RLE) Award.

Available in most national curriculum subjects, the programme offers enhanced salaries and benefits, with some worth up to £41,000 for those training to teach maths and physics. On completion, teachers can choose to stay in schools or return to work in higher education.

Assessment Only (AO) route into teaching

The AO route is primarily for experienced teaching assistants or unqualified teachers with two years of experience working in at least two schools who wish to attain QTS. It allows you to show that you already meet all of the standards for QTS without having to do any further training. You'll need to provide detailed evidence and will be assessed in a school by an accredited and approved provider. The programme can also provide an employment-based training route for graduates entering teaching via independent schools or academies.

HMC Teacher Training

HMC Teacher Training is a two-year training route in HMC independent senior schools across the UK. HMC (the Headmasters' & Headmistresses' Conference) is a professional association representing a group of heads of independent schools. Trainee teachers work in salaried posts and gain a PGCE and QTS. ☺

Written by Pat Carmody, Canterbury Christ Church University

How do you apply for postgraduate initial teacher education and training?

targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/teaching-and-education/advice/468040-how-do-you-apply-for-postgraduate-initial-teacher-education-and-training

Most initial teacher training programmes use the UCAS Teacher Training website for applications. For other programmes, you may need to apply directly to the provider. As part of the application process, you'll also need to arrange to sit the professional skills tests.

What is the application process?

For university/college-led PGCEs, SCITTs and School Direct throughout England and Wales, you apply through UCAS Teacher Training. The application process (Apply 1) opens on 24 October 2017 for you to search for training courses that start the following autumn and you can begin making applications from 26 October 2017. You should apply as soon as possible to maximise your chance of getting the training place you want.

The system operates in two phases:

Apply 1: You can make up to three choices, which must all be submitted at the same time. They can include both primary and secondary choices and may be across the three routes of PGCE, SCITT and School Direct. The choices are considered by your chosen training providers simultaneously. Before you can be offered a place, you'll have to attend an interview or selection day. Some training providers require you to have passed the professional skills tests before interview, while others will make offers of places conditional on passing them. The training providers must make a decision on your application within 40 working days of receiving it. Once you've heard from all your choices, you've got ten working days to respond to any offers you've been given and can only accept one offer.

Apply 2: This phase is open from 16 November 2017.. If you don't hold any offers from the Apply 1 phase, you can then make further applications. They have to be made one at a time but can be for any route and you can keep applying until you're offered a place.

- Find out **how to write a great application for teacher training** and **what to expect from the teacher training interview and selection day**

Applications for PGDE courses in Scotland are made through the undergraduate UCAS system which will open in the autumn. Applications for PGCE courses in Northern Ireland are made directly to the institution.

How do you apply to Teach First?

Applications are made online through the Teach First site. New places are released in June and then recruitment is carried out on a rolling basis with vacancies being filled as

soon as suitable candidates are found. It's best to apply early as the participating schools' requirements in some subjects will be met quickly. If you're successful at the online application stage, you will then be asked to attend an assessment centre, where you deliver a short sample lesson, take part in a group case study exercise and have a competency-based interview.

How do you apply for early years initial teacher training?

Applications to the main graduate entry route are made either directly to higher education institutions that provide early years ITT or, in some cases, via UCAS Teacher Training. Contact the institution for information on how to apply. The Department for Education has a list of accredited providers.

If you wish to follow the employment-based route, you'll need to speak to your employer in the early years setting and get their agreement.

If you are interested in the School Direct (Early Years) route you will need to contact one of the lead organisations that delivers the course. Details are available from the Department for Education.

Applicants for all routes must meet the same eligibility criteria as for primary school teacher trainees, including passing the relevant skills tests.

How do you apply to Researchers in Schools?

Application forms are available on the Researchers in Schools website, and should be emailed along with a CV to the address indicated on the form. Those who are successful at the first application stage are then invited to an assessment centre which is held at one of the partner schools. You will have to deliver and evaluate a mini-lesson, take part in a group exercise and have a one to one interview.

How do you apply for HMC Teacher Training?

HMC (the Headmasters' & Headmistresses' Conference) is a professional association representing a group of heads of independent schools. HMC independent school vacancies are advertised on the HMC Teacher Training website and on relevant school websites. Applications can begin from January to start in the September of the same year. If you are interested in this route, register on the HMC website and you will be sent vacancy notifications. You must apply for specific teacher training posts directly with the schools.

How do you apply for the Assessment Only (AO) route?

Initially, you should talk to your current employer about this option and establish their willingness to support your progress to qualified teacher status (QTS). They may have already taken staff through this route and will be able to advise you on the options. You will then need to apply directly to an approved provider and details of these are available from the Department for Education.

How do you choose a course?

Research your options thoroughly, including looking at the institutions' own websites and visiting if possible. You may want to discuss your ideas with a careers adviser, to help work out what best suits your own preferences and circumstances.

Things you might consider when deciding where to apply include:

- Do you need to gain a PGCE? QTS alone qualifies you to teach in England but may not be sufficient elsewhere. PGCEs enable you to gain credits at masters degree level, which you may be able to use toward a full masters degree after you have completed your training.
- Are you restricting your choice to a particular geographical area? If so, there may not be courses of all types available for your subject or age range.
- Would you like to be fully immersed in the life of one school right from the start of your training or would you prefer more progressive placements in several schools?
- If you're considering a school-based route, it's important to find out as much as you can about the school or group of schools, their partner training provider(s) and the nature of the programme they offer as they do differ.
- Competition for places can be intense. Consider the balance of applicants to number of places available. Some school-based providers may only have one place available in the subject you wish to teach. Higher education institutions vary widely in the number of places they have to offer, and may have many applicants for some courses. ©

Written by Pat Carmody, Canterbury Christ Church University

Training to teach in further and higher education

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The further education and skills sector includes further education (FE) colleges, independent training providers, the third sector (charities and social enterprises), adult and community learning, offender learning and the armed and uniformed services. There are several teaching qualifications available if you wish to teach students beyond the age of compulsory education; your choice will depend on the type of teaching role you wish to pursue.

What qualifications do you need to teach in FE?

It is possible to gain a lecturing job without a teaching qualification, but your prospects of gaining a position and of progression once in the sector are likely to be greatly enhanced by possessing an appropriate qualification. You can take qualifications at various levels:

- **Level 3 Award in Education and Training:** a short introductory course including peer-to-peer teaching practice, which you can take without the need to have a placement or be employed as a teacher.
- **Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training:** develops practical teaching skills and includes a minimum of 30 hours of teaching practice.

- **Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training:** training for a full teaching role which includes educational theory and a minimum of 100 hours of teaching practice. It's possible to include specialist training at this level in literacy, English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL), mathematics or special educational needs (SEN).

These qualifications may be undertaken in FE colleges, often on a part-time basis. For level 4 and 5 qualifications you'll usually need to be employed in a teaching role or be able to organise your own placement for teaching practice.

PGCEs in post-compulsory education are offered by higher education institutions either directly or through associated colleges. This is the most usual route into the profession for new graduates. The PGCE incorporates the requirements of the level 5 diploma, but offers additional units at a higher level. The PGCE can be undertaken as a full-time one year course, incorporating teaching practice, or part-time. You will need a degree in the subject you wish to teach.

There are no nationally specified entry requirements for these qualifications, though you need to show you have level 3 skills in English or mathematics to pursue specialist qualifications in these areas. Training providers, however, may have their own entry requirements.

If you achieve a qualification at Level 5 you can apply for qualified teacher learning and skills (QTLS) status with the Society for Education and Training (SET). You also need to have SET membership and level 2 or higher literacy and numeracy qualifications.

QTLS status is legally recognised as being equal to QTS, meaning you will be qualified to teach in schools and can be recruited to a permanent position with no further training. It's also possible to train in secondary teaching and then apply for work in the further education sector.

Where do you find FE teacher training courses?

You'll find a range of relevant courses **using our TARGETpostgrad search**. Some PGCE courses can be found by searching on **UCAS Teacher Training** – select the further education age range on the course search. For other courses, look at the websites of individual further and higher education institutions to see what's available and apply directly to the training provider.

How do you become a higher education lecturer?

To become a university lecturer, you normally need to study for a masters or PhD qualification in the specialist subject area you want to teach. You're not expected to have a teaching qualification before you begin, but can study for teaching qualifications once in post. The Higher Education Academy accredits university teaching and learning CPD (continuing professional development) courses. ©

Written by Pat Carmody, Canterbury Christ Church University

Funding for teacher training

targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/teaching-and-education/advice/468038-funding-for-teacher-training

You may be eligible to receive financial support in the form of a bursary or scholarship to help fund your training. Your eligibility and how much you will receive depend on a range of factors, including:

- your class of degree (to be eligible for a bursary or scholarship, you'll need a first, 2.1 or 2.2)
- the subject you wish to study.

If you're not eligible for a bursary or scholarship, you can apply for a loan to cover tuition fees (for unsalaried teacher training routes). You may also be eligible for a maintenance loan to help with living expenses, such as rent, food and travel, while you're studying. These will need to be paid back once you earn over £21,000.

This section covers funding in England. For information on funding in other parts of the UK see our advice on training to teach in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Bursaries for shortage subjects

Non-repayable bursaries are available for trainee teachers on some full and part-time primary and secondary Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) courses, school-centred initial teacher training (SCITT) schemes and non-salaried School Direct programmes. The amount you receive depends on the subject you plan to teach and degree class.

The bursaries for teacher training courses starting in 2018 are as follows:

- Graduates with a 2.1 or above who are training to teach **physics, computing, chemistry, geography** or **languages (French, German or Spanish)** with a 2.1 or above can apply for **scholarships** of £28,000. Those who are training to teach maths can apply for **scholarships** of £22,000. Graduates who do not have a 2.1 or above may still be considered if they have significant relevant experience. For the students selected, scholarships are paid instead of bursaries.
- Graduates training to teach **physics, biology, computing, chemistry, geography**, or **languages** (includes other modern or community languages in addition to French, German and Spanish) or **classics** (where the course is an ancient language - Latin or Ancient Greek) can access **bursaries** of £26,000 with a 2.2 or higher.
- Graduates training to teach **maths** can access **bursaries** of £20,000 with a 2.2 or higher.
- Graduates training to teach **design and technology** can access **bursaries** of £12,000 if they have a first or PhD or £9,000 if they have a 2.1 or masters.
- Graduates training to teach **English** can get **bursaries** of £15,000 with a 2.2 or higher.
- Graduates training to teach **history, music** or **RE** can get **bursaries** of £9,000 if they have a first or PhD or £4,000 if they have a 2.1 or masters.
- Graduates training on a **primary maths specialist** course or **primary general (with maths)** course can get **bursaries** of £6,000 if they have a 2.2 or higher. In all cases at least a B in A level maths (or equivalent) is also needed.

Early career payments for maths

If you teach maths, in addition to the above bursary or scholarship, you could get a £10,000 early career payment. You'll need to have completed a non-salaried teacher training course in 2018/19 and will receive two payments of £5,000 after tax in your third and fifth years of teaching. You must have taught in a state-funded school in England since qualifying.

Loans and grants to cover tuition fees and maintenance

Tuition fees have to be paid for postgraduate ITT courses and the amount of these will vary depending on the course and institution. Home and EU students on full-time and part-time courses may be eligible for a loan to cover tuition fees. This will not have to be repaid until you're working and earning over £21,000 a year.

Home students may also be able to apply for a student maintenance loan to help with accommodation and living costs.

Other support is available for certain groups of students, for example, students with disabilities and students with dependent children. If you're in financial hardship, you may also be eligible for help from your university. The student services department will be able to advise you about the support available.

Funding for early years initial teacher training

For those starting the main graduate entry training in 2017, the following funding is available:

- A grant of £7,000 to cover course fees for all graduates.
- A bursary of up to £5,000 for those with a first, £4,000 for those with a 2.1 and £2,000 for those with a 2.2.

Funding for training to work in FE

Tuition fee loans from Student Finance England are available to both full-time and part-time trainees (if the trainee meets the required criteria) for PGCE programmes accredited by a higher education institution. Full-time students may also apply for maintenance loans. Loan support may be available for level 5 programmes accredited by other awarding organisations – contact your chosen provider for further information.

Bursaries are available for graduates taking an ITT programme in maths and English before starting work as a further education lecturer. For 2018, the maximum bursary available is £25,000 for maths graduates with a first class degree, 2.1 or 2.2.

For trainee English teachers, a £9,000 bursary is available to those with a first class degree or a 2.1 only. Bursary funding is limited – providers allocate bursaries to qualifying trainees on a first come first served basis and once the funding is used up, no more will be made available. ©

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