



Education & Skills
Funding Agency

Academy general annual grant allocation guide: 2018 to 2019 academic year

**A guide for special and alternative
provision academies and special free
schools open between 1 April 2018 and
31 August 2018**

April 2018

Contents

Introduction	3
How to use the guide	3
Who is the guide for?	3
What's new in the 2018 to 2019 academic year?	4
Changes to the funding formula and your GAG statement	4
The GAG statement explained	5
Summary statement	5
Academic year 2018 to 2019 summary table	5
Sixth form funding	6
Table A: high needs place funding	7
Sample Table A: high needs place funding	8
Table B: post-opening grant (start-up grant)	11
Start-up grant (SUG)	11
Post-opening grant (POG)	11
Sample Table B: academic year 2018 to 2019 post-opening grant (start-up grant)	12
Funding outside the GAG	13
Risk protection arrangement (RPA)	13

Introduction

This operational guide helps you understand how the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has calculated your 2018 to 2019 academic year funding. It updates last year's guidance, setting out the changes to academy funding we've introduced this year. We've developed the guide in consultation with a sample of academies to make sure it better meets your needs.

The guide supports your general annual grant (GAG) statement. It sets out the funding you'll receive and how we've calculated it. You may notice small changes to some of the tables, but we've kept changes to a minimum to allow headline year-on-year comparisons.

How to use the guide

We've produced the guide in a format that allows you to easily access the specific parts that interest you or areas where you require more detailed information.

The '[what's new?](#)' section shows at a glance the changes to funding for special and alternative provision academies in the 2018 to 2019 academic year, and where the change is reflected in your GAG statement. The subsequent chapters take you through an example funding statement table by table, explaining each line in turn.

We recognise that GAG funding makes up only part of the overall funding for your academy. We've added a section to the end of the guide listing the main [non-GAG revenue and capital funding lines](#). This section includes links to information about how and when these are paid.

Who is the guide for?

This guide is for special and alternative provision (AP) academies and special free schools open between 1 April 2018 and 31 August 2018. Separate guidance is available for [mainstream academies and free schools](#).

When we refer to academies in this document we are referring to all types, including special free schools, unless otherwise stated.

What's new in the 2018 to 2019 academic year?

There are significant changes to the way that allocations of high needs funding for 2018 to 2019 to local authorities are determined because of the introduction of national funding formulae for schools, high needs and central school services. You can read more about this in the [high needs funding arrangements](#) for 2018 to 2019. That said, the underpinning operational processes and principles relating to high needs funding remain largely unchanged from 2017 to 2018.

The changes to the funding arrangements in 2018 to 2019 and how these are reflected in your GAG statement are summarised below, and you can find more information on the technical aspects of these in subsequent chapters.

Changes to the funding formula and your GAG statement

What's new?	What does this mean?	How will this be reflected in my GAG statement?
Additional 16 to 19 funding line	There is an additional 16 to 19 funding line for capacity and delivery funding.	If your academy has a sixth form, you will see this line in the summary table: 16 to 19 allocation. It will show as zero unless your academy is eligible for this funding.

The GAG statement explained

The following sections of this guide walk you through the GAG statement for the 2018 to 2019 academic year. Please note that the figures in the sample tables A and B are intended as an illustration only.

Summary statement

The first page of your GAG statement is a summary statement of the tables that make up your GAG. The information used to populate the summary table comes from each of the tables in your pack. Section 3 (16 to 19 allocation) will only be populated if your academy has a sixth form.

Academic year 2018 to 2019 summary table

		Academy General Annual Grant allocation statement: 2018 to 2019 academic year Special and alternative provision academies	
Name	Provider name		
LA name	LA name		
LAESTAB	LAEstabNumber		
UPIN	UPIN		
UKPRN	UKPRN		
URN	URN		
Opening date	Date		
1. Breakdown of academic year 2018 to 2019 school allocation			
Post-opening grant (start-up grant)		£0.00	See Table B
Total school allocation		£0.00	
2. Breakdown of academic year 2018 to 2019 high needs allocation			
Pre-16 high needs place funding		£0.00	See Table A
Post-16 high needs place funding		£0.00	See Table A
Hospital education funding		£0.00	See Table A
Total high needs allocation		£0.00	(Excludes any top-up funding from local authority)

3. Breakdown of 16-19 allocation		
Programme funding - formula	£0.00	See 16-19 allocation statement
Formula protection funding	£0.00	
Student financial support funding	£0.00	
Capacity and delivery funding	£0.00	
Total 16-19 allocation including student financial support funding	£0.00	
Total allocation (1+2+3)	£0.00	
Information on funding lines that are in addition to GAG will be provided separately (pupil premium, for example)		

Sixth form funding

Section 3 of the summary table refers to the 16 to 19 statement issued to alternative provision academies and free schools. Special academies with 16 to 19 provision are funded for pre-16 and 16 to 19 provision on the same place funded basis and do not receive a separate statement. Funding for student support services for special academies and alternative provision will be included in section 3.

Further information on [16 to 19 funding allocations](#) is also available.

Table A: high needs place funding

Local authorities have a role in funding high needs pupils in academies, as a commissioner of special education provision for these pupils. This means that academies receive funding for pupils with high needs from both ESFA (place funding) and local authorities (top-up funding). In the case of alternative provision (AP) the top-up funding can also come directly from other schools, where they commission places directly. More information about the role of the local authority in agreeing and commissioning high needs places is available in [the high needs funding 2018 to 2019: operational guide](#)

High needs funding for both pre-16 and 16 to 19 special educational needs (SEN) is funded on the number of agreed places.

AP (which by definition is pre-16 only) is also funded on a per place basis. 16 to 19 students at AP academies are funded per pupil at the national 16 to 19 funding formula rate. There may also be some 16 to 19 SEN places at AP academies which are funded on a per place basis.

In the 2018 to 2019 academic year we will roll forward your 2017 to 2018 academic year place numbers and use these to calculate your allocation. The exception to this is where your local authority has requested a change in place numbers which was agreed with you (or accepted by ESFA where there was disagreement). In this instance we would use this changed figure in your allocation. More information on this process is available in the [high needs place change notification: technical note](#). Free schools are out of scope of this process. Place numbers for special and AP free schools will be determined by ESFA based on a range of data including the school's financial plan, commissioning arrangements and occupancy levels.

Top-up funding above these levels, based on the assessed needs of the pupil and the cost of meeting these in the setting, should be agreed between the commissioning local authority and the special or AP academy. Top-up funding is paid for the period that the pupil is actually occupying the place in the academy. It is paid directly to the academy on a monthly basis unless a different payment frequency is agreed with the local authority. Top-up funding for pupils in AP can be paid directly by other academies and schools if they commission the places for those pupils. As top-up funding is not paid by ESFA, it is not shown on your GAG funding statement. Read the [high needs funding 2018 to 2019: operational guide](#) for more information on top up funding, including the minimum funding guarantee for special schools at annex A.

Hospital education places that exist in some academies will be funded at the same rate as in 2017 to 2018, unless the local authority has agreed a higher rate. Pupils occupying these places do not attract top-up funding.

More information on [high needs funding](#) is available online.

Sample Table A: high needs place funding

[Back to summary statement](#)

Pre-16 breakdown						
Type	Place numbers	Annual per place unit value	Total pre-16 allocation	Allocation to August 2019 (as total allocation for academies open before or on 1 September 2018)	Calculation	Explanation
1. Special	55	£10,000.00	£550,000.00	£550,000.00		Place numbers: rolled forward pre-16 2017 to 2018 places (or place numbers agreed by ESFA)
2. Alternative provision	0	£10,000.00	£0.00	£0.00		Unit value: £10,000 Total pre-16 allocation = place numbers x unit value Allocation to August 2019: Total allocation x days open / 365
Pre-16 high needs allocation (365 days)				£550,000.00	= (1+2)	Total pre-16 allocation proportioned from the time you open until the end of the academic year, 31 August 2019.

Post-16 breakdown

Place numbers	Annual per place unit value	Total post-16 allocation	Allocation to August 2019 (as total allocation for academies open before or on 1 September 2018)	Explanation
10	£10,000.00	£100,000.00	£100,00.00	<p>Place numbers: rolled forward post-16 2017 to 2018 places (or place numbers agreed by the ESFA)</p> <p>Unit value: £10,000</p> <p>Total post-16 allocation = place numbers x unit value</p> <p>Allocation to August 2019: Total allocation x months open / 12</p>
Post-16 high needs allocation (12 months)			£100,000.00	Total post-16 allocation, proportioned from the time you open until the end of the academic year, 31 August 2019.

Hospital education breakdown

Place numbers	Full year funding	Allocation to August 2019 (as total allocation for academies open before or on 1 September 2018)	Explanation
0	£0.00	£0.00	<p>Full year funding: this is calculated by the local authority that previously maintained the provision, based on the agreed number of places you'll provide. The local authority informs the ESFA of the relevant amount.</p> <p>Allocation to August 2019: Total allocation x months open / 12</p>
Hospital education (12 months)		£0.00	Total hospital education allocation, proportioned from the time you open as an academy until the end of the academic year, 31 August 2019.

Table B: post-opening grant (start-up grant)

Table B will only be populated in your 2018 to 2019 funding statement if you are due to receive start-up grant or post-opening grant funding.

Start-up grant (SUG)

Start-up grant is paid to full sponsored academies only.

Special and AP academies may receive start-up grant part A. For academies that opened from April 2013 this is a flat rate allocation paid in the first year of opening only: 50% in month one, 25% in month two and 25% in month three.

Special and AP academies do not receive start-up grant B, which is a formulaic allocation for leadership capacity. This is because these academies receive a GAG allocation per place rather than per pupil, which already takes account of staff diseconomies of scale and recognises that pupil numbers in such provision can fluctuate widely throughout the year.

More information is available in [sponsored academies funding: advice for sponsors](#).

Post-opening grant (POG)

Post-opening grant is paid to special and AP free schools to reflect the additional costs in establishing a new publicly-funded school. The POG provides funding in two elements as the school grows: per-pupil resources, paid on a per place basis, and a leadership diseconomies grant. These titles reflect the basis on which the funding is calculated, but the grant can be spent on any legitimate purpose of the school.

The first element (resources) is paid each year that the school builds up to capacity for each new pupil expected to be on roll.

The second element (leadership) is agreed on a case-by-case basis with the project lead. It is based on the needs of the new special or AP free school.

Sample Table B: academic year 2018 to 2019 post-opening grant (start-up grant)

[Back to summary statement](#)

Line	Value	Calculation	Explanation
1. Start-up grant part A	£0.00		For academies that opened from April 2013 this is a one-off payment.
2. Start-up grant part B – formulaic allocation	£0.00		Special and AP academies do not receive start-up grant B.
3. Post-opening grant – per pupil resources	£0.00		For special and AP free schools this is the total of the resource element of the POG.
4. Post-opening grant – leadership diseconomies	£0.00		For special and AP free schools this is the total of the diseconomies element of the POG.
5. Total post-opening grant (start-up grant) allocation	£0.00	= 1 + 2 + 3 + 4	The sum of SUG or POG elements as applicable.

Funding outside the GAG

The previous sections explain the elements that make up your GAG funding. As an academy you will receive other revenue funding that is not part of your GAG. This includes:

- [early years funding](#): paid by the local authority to academies with a nursery class through the early years single funding formula (EYSFF)
- national non-domestic rates (NNDR): paid on receipt of a claim using an [online form](#) in a single amount outside of the school budget share (SBS)
- [pupil premium](#): paid in four instalments by ESFA
- [PE and sport premium for primary schools](#): paid in two instalments by ESFA
- [universal infant free school meals](#): paid in two instalments by ESFA to academies with infant classes or pupils of infant age
- [year 7 literacy and numeracy catch-up premium](#): paid in one instalment by ESFA to academies with year 7 pupils who did not achieve the expected standard in reading or maths at the end of key stage 2 (KS2)
- high needs top-up funding: paid by the local authority where required. In the case of AP, top-up funding can be paid directly by other schools and academies
- funding for commissioned SEN or AP services: paid by local authorities and other schools and academies, usually under a service level agreement or contract, where such services are offered by the academy

Further information about [revenue funding payments for academies](#), the [growth fund](#) and [falling rolls fund](#) is available.

In addition, your academy may receive [capital funding](#) from ESFA.

Risk protection arrangement (RPA)

If you are a member of [RPA](#) any adjustment made to your funding will be shown on your monthly pay schedule. It is not shown on your allocation statement as it does not affect your allocation, but does affect the amount you will receive on a monthly basis. If you opt into RPA you will not receive an adjusted allocation statement, but your monthly pay schedule will be reissued.



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