



Department  
for Education

# **Initial teacher training allocations methodology**

**Guidance for the 2019 to 2020 academic  
year**

**September 2018**

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# 1. The approach for 2019 to 2020

The Department for Education (DfE) is responsible for regulating the volume of trainee teachers in England where training leads to the award of (QTS). It is our aim to support recruitment across all ITT courses<sup>1</sup>, while ensuring efficient use of public funds and minimising significant over-supply of teachers.

This document provides guidance for ITT providers and School Direct lead schools on recruitment permissions for all routes into teaching for 2019 to 2020, and the methodology for allocating training places for the 2019 to 2020 recruitment cycle.

## Routes into teaching

A range of routes are available for people to train as a teacher and be recommended for QTS and Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS) in England. These include (but are not limited to):

Postgraduate Routes:

- Provider led: where a fee is payable to the accredited ITT provider to cover the cost of training. Training places are held by the ITT provider.
- School Direct (fee-funded): where a school partnership works with an ITT provider to which a fee is payable to cover the cost of training. Training places are held by the school partnership.
- School Direct (salaried): where a school partnership works with an ITT provider and the trainee is employed within the school partnership. Training places are held by the school partnership in which the trainee is employed.
- Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship (PGTA): where a school partnership works with an ITT provider that is on the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers (RoATP) and the apprentice is employed within the school partnership. Training places are held by the school partnership in which the apprentice is employed. This is a salaried route which includes an additional apprenticeship end-point assessment following the award of QTS. More information on the PGTA is available online<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'courses' in this document refers to each subject and route combination. For example, *Physics School Direct (salaried)* is a different course to *Physics School Direct (fee-funded)*. Postgraduate and undergraduate routes in any given subject are also defined as different courses.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.gov.uk/guidance/postgraduate-teaching-apprenticeships-guidance-for-providers>

## Undergraduate Courses:

- Where a fee is payable to the accredited ITT provider to cover the cost of training. Training places are held by the ITT provider.

## Early Years Courses:

- There are also a range of routes available for people to train as an early years teacher leading to the award of EYTS. There are two graduate funded routes and an undergraduate route.

## Considering teacher supply

DfE regulates recruitment to all subjects across these routes, with the objective of securing the right number of teachers to meet demand from schools in England. In formulating our approach we considered recent recruitment patterns, the number of postgraduate trainee teachers required in each subject as estimated by the Teacher Supply Model (TSM), sector feedback; and the information supplied by ITT providers and lead schools during the June 2018 request window. We will publish the detailed TSM and allocations for the 2019 to 2020 academic year in October 2018.

## Permission to recruit

For the 2019 to 2020 recruitment cycle, DfE will issue permission to recruit to ITT courses to ITT providers and lead schools. This is different from previous years, where DfE *allocated* ITT places for all courses (across all subjects and routes) to ITT providers and lead schools. Permission to recruit allows ITT providers and lead schools to list their courses as open for recruitment and to access any DfE funding associated with training courses. **In order to recruit trainees, an ITT provider or lead school must have permission to recruit from DfE.**

For 2019 to 2020, we are issuing 'permission to recruit' in two categories, outlined below:

### 'Unlimited' category

Recruitment to ITT courses in this category is **unrestricted, and this applies to the majority of courses**. By taking this approach, we are giving ITT providers and lead schools the freedom to recruit as flexibly as possible to meet local need.

ITT providers and lead schools that made requests for training places in June 2018 will receive confirmation from DfE of permission to recruit. Permission to recruit is granted for each individual course. Once permission to recruit has been granted, ITT providers and lead schools can recruit as many trainees to that course as they wish. This means that partnerships can recruit beyond any recruitment estimates given for courses in June 2018, without having to contact DfE.

## **‘Allocated’ category**

Recruitment to ITT courses in this category is **limited by the number of places allocated by DfE**. ITT providers and lead schools that requested training places for courses in this category will receive an allocation of places, which gives permission to recruit to these courses.

ITT providers and lead schools must not recruit beyond the total number of places allocated for each course. Please note that any instances of over-recruitment above allocated places will be investigated by DfE and could affect eligibility for funding and/or compliance with the ITT criteria<sup>3</sup>.

Courses have been assigned to this category where recruitment trends demonstrate consistently high demand from applicants, indicating the need to protect against the risk of over-supply or over-spend.

**A full list of the courses (subjects and routes) and their categories under the 2019 to 2020 methodology is available in [Annex A – Recruitment categories by subject and route](#).**

DfE, or any successor organisation, may modify or amend the approach it takes in future years.

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<sup>3</sup> This includes over-recruitment to cover anticipated pre-course attrition

## 2. Postgraduate ITT courses leading to QTS

### Unlimited postgraduate courses

Recruitment to all postgraduate ITT courses leading to QTS falls under the **unlimited** category, with the exception of PE (fee-funded) courses.

### Allocated postgraduate courses: PE (fee-funded)

PE School Direct (fee-funded) and PE Provider led courses fall under the 'allocated' category in 2019 to 2020. Recruitment to these courses is limited by the number of places allocated by DfE. The number of places allocated for 2019 to 2020 is based on the allocations issued in 2018 to 2019, with a 10% uplift applied. ITT providers and lead schools who are new to delivering PE School Direct (fee-funded) and PE Provider led courses have been allocated a proportion of their maximum requested training places.

### PE with EBacc

In 2018 to 2019, we introduced a scheme that allowed ITT providers and lead schools to request additional PE places on top of their initial PE allocations. Trainees filling these places are required to train in an additional EBacc<sup>4</sup> subject alongside their main specialism of PE so that they are capable of teaching this in school. For recruitment purposes, these are 'PE with' courses, which required trainees to demonstrate the Teachers' Standards in PE only, while receiving additional training in an EBacc subject.

We will be continuing the scheme for 2019 to 2020. ITT providers and lead schools that wish to request additional PE places under this arrangement should contact DfE<sup>5</sup>. The approval of these places will be decided on a case-by-case basis, considering overall recruitment to PE and the eligibility of the candidates who apply. We require evidence that each applicant meets the eligibility criteria as follows:

- That all entrants meet the ITT eligibility criteria as detailed in the initial teacher training criteria and supporting advice.
- That all entrants have achieved a standard equivalent to a C grade or above at A level in the relevant EBacc subject.
- That the ITT provider or lead school is confident that the applicant is suitable for the offer and has agreed to undertake the additional workload required to train in PE with an EBacc subject.

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<sup>4</sup> EBacc includes English language and literature, maths, physics, biology, chemistry, computer science, geography, history and languages.

<sup>5</sup> Please contact DfE at [itt.allocations@education.gov.uk](mailto:itt.allocations@education.gov.uk)

### 3. Undergraduate ITT courses leading to QTS

Undergraduate courses (including 'opt-in') fall under the 'allocated' category for 2019 to 2020 in order to safeguard against over-spend on undergraduate training. Recruitment to these courses is limited by the number of places allocated by DfE. ITT providers that requested undergraduate training places for 2019 to 2020 have been allocated their maximum requested number of places. ITT providers may request additional places if they have filled or are very close to filling their allocated places by contacting DfE<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> Please contact DfE at [itt.allocations@education.gov.uk](mailto:itt.allocations@education.gov.uk)

## 4. Early years ITT: Postgraduate and Undergraduate courses leading to EYTS

Early years ITT courses leading to Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS) fall under the 'allocated' category for 2019 to 2020. Recruitment to these courses is limited by the number of places allocated by DfE. ITT providers have been allocated their minimum requested number of places. ITT providers may request additional places if they have filled or are very close to filling their allocated places by contacting DfE<sup>7</sup>. Additional requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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<sup>7</sup> Please contact DfE at [itt.allocations@education.gov.uk](mailto:itt.allocations@education.gov.uk)



## 5. Other considerations

### Multiple Year Allocations(MYA)

In 2018 to 2019, the top 25% of ITT providers were awarded Multiple Year Allocations (MYA). An MYA offers longer-term stability and planning opportunities by giving ITT providers a guaranteed number of postgraduate ITT places for a three year period. For 2019 to 2020, these ITT providers have received the guaranteed number of places in 'allocated' courses, and have maximum flexibility to recruit to unlimited courses. This means that ITT providers granted a MYA for PE (fee-funded) courses in 2018 to 2019 will be guaranteed at minimum the same number of PE (fee-funded) places for 2019 to 2020. For unlimited courses, their guarantee of places will apply up to 2020 to 2021 should any unlimited course receive allocations in the future. For more information, visit the [ITT official statistics page](#) where the MYA methodology for 2018 to 2019 is published<sup>8</sup>.

The methodology for Multiple Year Allocations in 2019 to 2020 will be published in the autumn.

### ITT funding

DfE is responsible for managing bursary and grant funding associated with ITT for postgraduate and undergraduate courses. It also monitors the public cost of student loans accessed by trainees on these courses. Information on funding for ITT for the 2019 to 2020 academic year, including bursaries, scholarships and School Direct (salaried) grants, will be published in autumn 2018.

### Over-supply contingency

In the unlikely event of over-supply, where there is significant and undesirable over-supply in an unlimited course, DfE reserves the right to stop recruitment. An identical 'reserve power' was included in the previous two years' methodologies for unlimited courses, but was not used. Any stop notice may ask ITT providers and lead schools to close courses on UCAS immediately. ITT providers and lead schools will then have a minimum notice period of five working days to process applications received before the stop notice. Any stop notice will also include any further conditions relating to this requirement, such as the date on which ITT providers and lead schools must stop making offers. Applications received after the date on which ITT providers and lead schools are required to close courses on UCAS may not be considered, except where they are replacing a candidate who has dropped out or where an ITT provider has yet to recruit to their guaranteed places under the MYA policy.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tsm-and-initial-teacher-training-allocations-2018-to-2019>

## Data accuracy

ITT providers and lead schools should ensure that all of their contact details are kept up to date on the Trainee Teacher Portal (TTP). Please note any data entry inaccuracies on the TTP or elsewhere could have a direct impact on receiving permission to recruit or allocations in subsequent years. For accredited ITT providers, failure to comply with DfE data requirements is grounds for consideration of withdrawal of accreditation as stated in the [ITT criteria and supporting advice](#)<sup>9</sup>.

## Over-recruitment implications

DfE reserves the right to apply penalties against any ITT provider or lead school that over-recruits to allocated courses. In particular, ITT providers and lead schools may be liable for the cost of training anyone recruited in excess of their allocated numbers. Failure of an ITT provider to regulate its volume of trainees in accordance with DfE allocations may lead to that ITT provider being deemed non-compliant. For more information, see the guidance on the [ITT accreditation withdrawal process](#)<sup>10</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-criteria>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-itt-accreditation-withdrawal-process>

## Annex A – Recruitment categories by subject and route

The full list of courses (subjects and routes) and their approach category (unlimited or allocated) is set out in the table below:

	<b>Provider-Led</b>	<b>School Direct (fee-funded)</b>	<b>School Direct (salaried)</b>	<b>Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship</b>
Primary				
Primary	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Primary with Maths	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Secondary				
Art & Design	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Biology	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Business Studies	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Chemistry	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Citizenship	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Classics	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Computing	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Dance	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Design & Technology	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Drama	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Economics	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
English	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Food	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Geography	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Health & Social Care	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
History	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Leisure & Tourism	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Mathematics	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Media Studies	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Modern Languages	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Music	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited

	<b>Provider-Led</b>	<b>School Direct (fee-funded)</b>	<b>School Direct (salaried)</b>	<b>Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship</b>
Physical Education	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	Unlimited	Unlimited
Physics	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Physics with Mathematics	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Psychology	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Religious Education	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Social Sciences	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Undergraduate (all subjects)	<b>Allocated</b>			
Early Years (postgraduate and undergraduate)	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Allocated</b>



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