

# T Levels – how to express an interest to deliver in 2021 to 2022 academic year

## Illustrative examples of qualifying and non-qualifying providers

### Providers who express an interest will need to:

- have an Ofsted rating of Good or Outstanding or be able to demonstrate that they have an equivalent standard of quality – for providers which do not yet have an Ofsted rating (an Outstanding rating will not be given priority over Good in this round), and
- have at least satisfactory financial health, and
- for UTCs, National Colleges, and providers in opportunity areas only:
  - currently be delivering to a minimum of 10 qualifying students per T Level subject area they are applying to deliver; and
  - currently be delivering to a minimum of 50 qualifying students across all pathways they are applying to deliver, or
- for all other providers:
  - currently be delivering to a minimum of 10 qualifying students per T Level subject area they are applying to deliver; and
  - currently be delivering to a minimum of 100 qualifying students across all pathways they are applying to deliver

### Qualifying students

To identify a proxy for students that might be in scope for a T Level we will use 2017 to 2018 end-year data from the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) and the school census. Prospective providers should use these data sets to identify their qualifying students. Students that meet all of the following criteria are treated as qualifying students:

- full-time, that is those with total planned hours recorded as above 540 if aged 16 or 17 and 450 hours for an 18 year old
- students that have met the qualifying start period for their study programme
- students aged 16, 17 and 18
- students aged 19 to 24 with an education, health and care plan
- students who are enrolled on a level 3 programme, with a vocational core aim, which is within the SSA(s) relevant to the T Levels (see table 1) that will be available for delivery in the 2021 to 2022 academic year (and is a relevant qualification type)

Students who are 19 years old at the beginning of their 2 year programme (and who do not have an education, health and care plan) are not included.

### Provider types

In our previous 2020 expression of interest process some provider types, including National Colleges and University Technical Colleges, were unrepresented in the delivery of T Levels. We wish to get good coverage of all of these provider types, we have therefore set a lower minimum student number threshold specifically for these provider types.

### Opportunity areas

The opportunity area programme is a key part of the Education Secretary's priority of tackling social mobility and improving **opportunities** for young people across the country. To identify if your provider is in an opportunity area please check on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

## Selecting the relevant T Levels(s), route and sector subject area

Providers are advised to follow the following five steps to establish their eligibility and when selecting the T Level pathway(s), they intend to deliver in September 2021:

**Step 1** – Establish the T Level pathway(s) (for example on site construction) they are best placed to deliver by referring to the core content ([table 1, column 3](#)) and [occupational](#) maps and then select the route within which that T Level pathway sits (for example construction)

**Step 2** – Establish the qualifications that they currently deliver (2017 to 2018 academic year) in the relevant SSA for example [for the construction route that would be 5.1 Architecture, 5.2 Building and Construction & 5.3 Urban, Rural and Regional Planning](#).

**Step 3** – Check that the qualifications they are delivering is one of the qualifying [Ofqual categories](#).

**Step 4** – [Establish the number of students taking these qualifications in 2017 to 2018 academic year and check that they meet the student number thresholds for the route and overall](#).

These figures will determine your eligibility to express an interest.

**Step 5** – Estimate the number of students expected to be enrolled on each T Level pathway for the three academic years 2021 to 2022, 2022 to 2023 and 2023 to 2024. Providers can do this by identifying the number of students taking the qualifications which are most similar to the T Levels they intend to deliver. They can do this by referring to the T Level core content (**table 1, column 3**) and [occupational](#) maps. These numbers will form our initial planning assumptions and will not form part of the section process.

Providers are advised that having at least 10 qualifying students studying qualifications within the relevant SSAs with an overall total of 50 or 100 students (depending on provider type and location) across all route will qualify them to submit an interest to deliver any or all of the T Level pathways within that route.

Once the provider has selected the T Level that they wish to deliver and identified the route (step 1); they will need to establish the qualifications that they deliver in the relevant sector subject areas (SSAs) to that route (step 2). The expression of interest will then ask for the qualifications that the provider currently delivers, and the number of students studying those qualifications in 2017 to 2018. It is these numbers which will determine eligibility to express an interest.

To be eligible to express an interest providers must have a minimum of 50/100 qualifying students (depending on provider type and location) in total across all the routes they wish to deliver and in each route they are applying to deliver there must be a minimum of 10 students studying qualifications in the relevant SSAs for that route.

Only the qualifying students in routes where the provider meets the minimum of 10 will count towards the overall total of 50 or 100.

## Examples

Example number	Scenario
1	A provider expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in each route and 100 or more qualifying students across both routes.
2	A provider expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in one route and less than 10 qualifying students in the other route and 100 or more qualifying students in the qualifying route.
3	A provider expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in each route and less than 100 qualifying students across both routes.
4	A National College, UTC or a provider located in an opportunity area expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in one route and less than 10 qualifying students in the other route with 50 qualifying students in the qualifying route.
5	A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in each route with 100 or more qualifying students across all routes.
6	A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 students in 2 routes but less than 10 in the other 2 routes with 100 or more student across the 2 qualifying routes.
7	A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in all routes and less than 100 qualifying students across all routes.
8	A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 students in 2 routes but less than 10 in the other 2 and less than 100 students across the 2 qualifying routes.

**Example 1** – A provider expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in each route and 100 or more qualifying students across both routes.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programmes in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSAs 6.1, 9.3) = **55 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1) = **55 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **110 students**
- number of students contributing to the min of 100 = **110 students**

This provider **would qualify** to deliver any of the pathways in both routes because they:

- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 10 qualifying students in both routes; and
- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 100 qualifying students across the 2 routes.

**Example 2** – A provider expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in one route and less than 10 qualifying students in the other route and 100 or more qualifying students in the qualifying route.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programmes in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSAs 6.1, 9.3) = **110 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1) = **5 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **115 students**
- number of students contributing to the min of 100 = **110 students**

This provider **would not qualify** to deliver the Health and Science route because they:

- ✗ do not have a minimum of 10 qualifying students in this route.

However, they **would qualify** to deliver any of the pathways in the Digital route because they:

- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 10 qualifying students in the digital route; and
- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 100 qualifying students in total (note the students studying in SSAs relevant to the Health and science route do not count towards this total).

**Example 3** – A provider expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in each route and less than 100 qualifying students across both routes.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programmes in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSAs 6.1, 9.3) = **80 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSA 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1 Science) = **10 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **90 students**

This provider **would not qualify** to deliver either route because although they meet the minimum of 10 qualifying students criteria in each route they:

- X** do not deliver to a minimum of 100 qualifying students across the 2 routes.

**Example 4** – A National College, UTC or a provider located in an opportunity area expressing an interest to deliver 2 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in one route and less than 10 qualifying students in the other route with more than 50 qualifying students in qualifying route.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programmes in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSA 6.1, 9.3) = **90 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSA 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1) = **5 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **95 students**
- number of students contributing to the min of 50 = **90 students**

This provider **would not qualify** to deliver the Health and Science route because they:

- X** do not have a minimum of 10 qualifying students in this route.

However, they would qualify to deliver the digital route because they:

- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 10 qualifying students in the digital route; and
- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 50 qualifying students across the 2 routes (note the students studying in SSAs relevant to the Health and science route do not count towards this total); and
- ✓ they are a National College, a UTC or are located in an opportunity area.

**Example 5** – A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in each route with 100 or more qualifying students across all routes.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programmes in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSAs 6.1, 9.3) = **55 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1) = **55 students**
- Construction route – (SSAs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3) = **10 students**
- Education route – (SSAs 1.5, 13.1, 13.2) = **60 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **180 students**
- number of students contributing to the min of 100 = **180 students**

This provider **would qualify** to deliver any of the pathways in all 4 routes because they:

- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 10 qualifying students in each route; and
- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 100 qualifying students across the routes.

**Example 6** – A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 students in 2 routes but less than 10 in the other 2 and 100 or more student across the 2 qualifying routes.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programme in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSAs 6.1, 9.3) = **55 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1) = **55 students**
- Construction route – (SSAs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3) = **9 students**
- Education route – (SSAs 1.5, 13.1, 13.2) = **9 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **128 students**
- number of students contributing to the min of 100 = **110 students**

This provider **would qualify** to deliver any of the pathways in Digital and Health and Science routes because they:

- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 10 qualifying students in these routes; and
- ✓ deliver to a minimum of 100 qualifying students across the 2 routes (note the students studying in SSAs relevant to the Construction and Education routes do not count towards this total).

They **would not qualify** to deliver any pathways in the Construction or Education Routes because they:

- ✗ have less than 10 students in both of these routes.

**Example 7** – A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 qualifying students in all routes and less than 100 qualifying students across all routes.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programme in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSAs 6.1, 9.3) = **20 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1) = **20 students**
- Construction route – (SSAs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3) = **20 students**
- Education route – (SSAs 1.5, 13.1, 13.2) = **20 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **80 students**
- number of students contributing to the min of 100 = **80 students**

They **would not qualify** to deliver any pathways in any of the routes because they:

- X** have less than 100 students in total across all 4 routes.

**Example 8** – A provider expressing an interest to deliver all 4 routes with a minimum of 10 students in 2 routes but less than 10 in the other 2 and less than 100 students across the 2 qualifying routes.

Qualifying students enrolled on level 3 programme in the following SSAs:

- Digital route – (SSAs 6.1, 9.3) = **45 students**
- Health and Science route – (SSAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1) = **45 students**
- Construction route – (SSAs 5.1, 5.2, 5.3) = **9 students**
- Education route – (SSAs 1.5, 13.1, 13.2) = **9 students**
  
- total qualifying students across all routes = **108 students**
- number of students contributing to the min of 100 = **90 students**

They **would not qualify** to deliver any pathways in any of the routes because they:

- X** have less than 100 students in total across the 2 routes that qualify (note the students studying in SSAs relevant to the Construction and Education routes do not count towards this total).