



Education & Skills
Funding Agency

Academy general annual grant allocation guide: 2019 to 2020 academic year

**A guide for special and alternative
provision academies and special free
schools open before 1 April 2019**

February 2019

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Introduction

This operational guide helps you understand how the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has calculated your 2019 to 2020 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 2019 to 2020 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 before 1 April 2019 . Separate guidance is available for [mainstream academies and free schools](#).

What's new in the 2019 to 2020 academic year?

The changes to funding in 2019 to 2020 are summarised below and you can find more information on the technical aspects of these in subsequent chapters.

Further information is available in the [high needs funding arrangements for 2019 to 2020](#). We have also published the [pre-16 schools funding arrangements for 2019 to 2020](#).

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?
Update of the ESG protection calculation	The ESG tapered protection is based only on the level of ESG protection in 2018 to 2019 since ESG funding ceased from September 2017.	The ESG protection calculation is set out in table C.
Additional 16 to 19 funding line	There is an additional 16 to 19 funding line for advanced maths premium 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 2019 to 2020 academic year. Please note that the **figures in the sample tables A to C are intended as an illustration only**. They are drawn from a number of different cases to show you as many of the calculation workings as possible and together they do not represent a single real-life academy.

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 (16-19 allocation) will only be populated if your academy has a sixth form.

Academic year 2019 to 2020 summary table

 Education & Skills Funding Agency		Academy General Annual Grant allocation statement: 2019 to 2020 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 2019 to 2020 school allocation			
Post-opening grant (start-up grant)		£0.00	See Table B
ESG protection		£0.00	See Table C
Total school allocation		£0.00	
2. Breakdown of academic year 2019 to 2020 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	
Industry placements: capacity and delivery funding (CDF)	£0.00	
Advanced maths premium 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

We wrote to open academies with sixth forms about [16 to 19 funding for the academic year 2019 to 2020](#) in December 2018. In this letter we set out the 16 to 19 funding formula, funding rates and the allocations timeline.

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 [high needs funding arrangements for 2019 to 2020](#).

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 2019 to 2020 academic year we will roll forward your 2018 to 2019 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 2019 to 2020: 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 2018 to 2019, 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

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Pre-16 breakdown					
Type	Place numbers	Annual per place unit value	Total pre-16 allocation		Explanation
1. Special	134	£10,000.00	£1,340,000.00		Place numbers: for academies: rolled forward pre-16 2018 to 2019 places (or agreed place numbers where a change in place numbers has been requested); for free schools: as agreed by ESFA Unit value: £10,000 Total allocation = place numbers x unit value
2. Alternative provision	0	£10,000.00	£0.00		
3. Total pre-16 high needs place funding			£1,340,000.00	= 1 + 2	Total pre-16 allocation (special) + total pre-16 allocation (alternative provision)

Post 16 breakdown			
Place numbers	Annual per place unit value	Total post-16 allocation	Explanation
0	£10,000.00	0.00	Place numbers: for academies: rolled forward post-16 2018 to 2019 places (or agreed place numbers where a change in place numbers

Post 16 breakdown			
			<p>has been requested); for free schools: as agreed by ESFA</p> <p>Unit value: £10,000</p> <p>Total post-16 allocation = place numbers x unit value</p>

Hospital education breakdown		
Place numbers	Total hospital allocation	Explanation
0	£0.00	Funding per place remains the same as in 2018 to 2019, unless the local authority has agreed a higher rate. It is an amount unique to the academy that will normally have been calculated by the local authority who previously maintained the provision.

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

Table B will only be populated in your 2019 to 2020 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 2019 to 2020 post-opening grant (start-up grant)

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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. For academies that opened before April 2013 the payments will be made over a number of years and any funding applicable to the 2019 to 2020 academic year will be shown in this line.
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.

Table C: education services grant (ESG) protection

We will continue to apply a tapered protection to provide protection against significant budget reductions as a result of changes to the ESG rate. It should be noted, however, that there will only be a small number of academies still eligible for this protection in 2019 to 2020.

The percentage protection for an academy is determined by its level of ESG protection per place in the 2018 to 2019 academic year. If your academy didn't receive any ESG protection funding in 2018 to 2019 and opened before 31 August 2017, then there will be no ESG protection paid in 2019 to 2020 and this table will not appear on your GAG statement.

For special and hospital education:

- if the academy received up to and including £327.25 of ESG protection the protection rate will be -1% of the academy's total allocation
- if the academy received up to and including £369.75 of ESG protection the first £327.25 will be protected at -1% and the amount above £327.25 will be protected at -2% of the academy's total allocation
- if the academy received more than £369.75 the first £327.25 will be protected at -1%, any amount above £327.25 and up to and including £369.75 will be protected at -2% and any amount above £369.75 will be protected at -3% of the academy's total allocation

For alternative provision:

- if the academy received up to and including £288.75 of ESG protection the protection rate will be -1% of the academy's total allocation
- if the academy received up to and including £326.25 of ESG protection the first £288.75 will be protected at -1% and the amount above £288.75 will be protected at -2% of the academy's total allocation
- if the academy received more than £326.25 the first £288.75 will be protected at -1%, any amount above £288.75 and up to and including £326.25 will be protected at -2% and any amount above £326.25 will be protected at -3% of the academy's total allocation

Sample Table C: academic year 2019 to 2020 education services grant (ESG) protection

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Line	Value		Calculation	Explanation
	Special and hospital	Alternative provision		
C.1 Academic year 2019 to 2020 reduction rate				
High needs places				
1.	Academic year 2018 to 2019 total number of high needs places (pre-16 and 16 to 19)	160		The place count in line 1 is the total number of high needs places including pre-16 and 16 to 19 places for the 2018 to 2019 academic year. For academies with joint special and alternative provision the total places shown in line 1 will be the sum of the number of its special / hospital and AP places shown separately in line 2.
2.	Academic year 2018 to 2019 number of high needs places (pre-16 and 16 to 19)	160		This is the number of high needs places for the 2018 to 2019 academic year including pre-16 and 16 to 19 places. It shows special / hospital and AP places separately. For most academies this number will be the same as the number in line 1.
3.	Academic year 2019 to 2020 number of high needs places (pre-16 and 16 to 19)	134		This is the total number of high needs places for the 2019 to 2020 academic year including pre- and 16 to 19 places. It shows special / hospital and AP places separately.
Academic year 2018 to 2019 total allocation unit values				

Line		Value		Calculation	Explanation
		Special and hospital	Alternative provision		
4.	Academic year 2018 to 2019 high needs allocation	£1,6000,000.00			This step shows the total 2018 to 2019 allocation in per place terms. Line 4 is the high needs allocation for the 2018 to 2019 academic year including 16 to 19. This is shown in Table A of your 2018 to 2019 funding statement. This excludes any top-up funding from your local authority.
5.	Academic year 2018 to 2019 ESG protection	£34,140.29			ESG protection was paid in academic year 2018 to 2019 to protect academies' per place funding against losses resulting from the fall in the ESG rate between the 2017 to 2018 and 2018 to 2019 academic years.
6.	Academic year 2018 to 2019 16 to 19 allocation (total funding excluding student financial support funding)	£0.00			This is the total 16 to 19 allocation for the 2018 to 2019 academic year as shown in the summary statement, where applicable. It excludes student financial support funding.
7.	Academic year 2018 to 2019 total allocation adjusted unit value	£10,213.38		= ((4 + 5) / 2) + (6 / 1)	This is the total per place allocation for the 2018 to 2019 academic year. If the academy is to receive a protection amount in the 2019 to 2020 academic year the percentage protection rate will be applied to this figure multiplied by the number of places for the 2019 to 2020 academic year. Place numbers from lines 1 and 2 are used because special / hospital and AP places attract different funding rates. This applies to academies with joint special / hospital and alternative provision. For most academies the place numbers in both lines will be identical.
Academic year 2019 to 2020 adjusted reduction unit value					
8.	Removal of academic year 2018 to 2019 ESG protection	£34,140.29		= 5	The removal of the 2018 to 2019 ESG protection is used to calculate the potential reduction in an academy's funding between the 2018 to 2019 and 2019 to 2020 academic years.

Line		Value		Calculation	Explanation
		Special and hospital	Alternative provision		
9.	Academic year 2019 to 2020 adjusted reduction unit value	(£254.78)		= 8 / 3 x -1	This line shows the potential reduction in the academy's funding per place as a result of the reduced ESG rate. It is made up of the reduction in the ESG rate between the two academic years and the removal of academic year 2018 to 2019 ESG protection. It is divided by the number of places to show the reduction per place.
10.	Academic year 2019 to 2020 reduction rate (loss) = adjusted reduction as a proportion of total allocation adjusted unit value	-2.49%		= 9 / 7	This shows the reduction per place as a proportion of the total allocation received in the 2018 to 2019 academic year. It shows the proportion of the academy's academic year 2018 to 2019 per place allocation they would lose without protection.
C.2 Academic year 2019 to 2020 tapered protection					
Academic year 2018 to 2019 funding rate					
11.	Academic year 2018 to 2019 funding rate	£213.38		= 5 / 2	The funding rate for academic year 2018 to 2019 is made up of the amount of ESG and allocation protection received. This is divided by the number of places to show the funding rate per place.
Academic year 2019 to 2020 tapered protection					
12.	Condition 1	1%			The conditions and thresholds refer to the protection rates and the level of ESG these apply to. Condition 1 is the lowest rate of protection of 1%.
13.	Threshold 1	£327.25			Threshold 1 is £327.25 for special and hospital education and £288.75 for alternative provision.
14.	Condition 2	2%			Condition 2 is 2%.

Line		Value		Calculation	Explanation
		Special and hospital	Alternative provision		
15.	Threshold 2	£369.75			Threshold 2 is £369.75 for special and hospital education and £326.25 for alternative provision.
16.	Condition 3	3%			Condition 3 is 3%.
Academic year 2019 to 2020 adjusted reduction unit value					
17.	Funding rate up to and including threshold 1 is protected against losses below condition 1	-1.00%		$= -1 \times (\text{MIN}(13, 11) / 11) \times 12$	<p>The 2019 to 2020 allocation reduction floor is the maximum reduction in an academy's funding between the two academic years. For each academy this is calculated by applying the protection rates (conditions) to the relevant part of the 2018 to 2019 academic year per place funding rate.</p> <p>For special and hospital education the 2018 to 2019 funding rate up to and including £327.25 is protected at -1%.</p> <p>For alternative provision the 2018 to 2019 funding rate up to and including £288.75 is protected at -1%.</p>
18.	Funding rate beyond threshold 1 up to and including threshold 2 is protected against losses below condition 2	0.00%		$= -1 \times (\text{MAX}(0, (\text{MIN}((15 - 13), (11 - 13)))) / 11) \times 14$	<p>For special and hospital education the 2018 to 2019 funding rate up to and including £369.75 is protected at -2%.</p> <p>For alternative provision the 2018 to 2019 funding rate up to and including £326.25 is protected at -2%.</p>
19.	Funding rate beyond threshold 2 is protected against losses below condition 3	0.00%		$= -1 \times (\text{MAX}(0, 11 - 15) / 11) \times 16$	<p>For special and hospital education the 2018 to 2019 funding rate above £369.75 is protected at -3%.</p> <p>For alternative provision the 2017 to 2019 funding rate above £326.25 is protected at -3%.</p>

Line		Value		Calculation	Explanation
		Special and hospital	Alternative provision		
20.	Allocation reduction floor	-1.00%		= 17 + 18+ 19	This line shows the maximum per place reduction in the academy's funding between the two academic years resulting from the reduction in ESG.
C.3 Academic year 2019 to 2020 protection calculation					
Academic year 2019 to 2020 ESG protection					
21.	Extent to which academic year 2019 to 2020 allocation reduction rate falls below the protection floor	1.49%		= IF(20<10, 0, 20 - 10)	This shows how much per pupil funding has dropped beyond the threshold shown in line 20 between the two academic years.
22.	Academic year 2019 to 2020 ESG protection	£20,454,37		= 21 x 7 x 3	This line shows the protection amount the academy will receive in the 2019 to 2020 academic year for each type of provision it provides. It is calculated by applying the protection rate to the total 2018 to 2019 allocation per place multiplied by the academic year 2019 to 2020 place numbers.
23.	Academic year 2019 to 2020 total ESG protection		£20,454,37		For most academies this figure will be the same as the figure in line 22. For academies with joint special and alternative provision line 23 shows the total protection amount the academy will receive in the 2019 to 2020 academic year for its total place numbers, including special, hospital and AP places 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
- [teachers' pay grant](#) - Further allocations covering the next financial year will be published in due course

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 after the allocation was published you will not receive an adjusted allocation statement, but your monthly pay schedule will be reissued.



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