

# Routes into Teaching: the basics

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## The main training routes:

### 1. University-led training

- This route caters for those who want to learn teaching theory before going out into the school environment for placements.
- Usually one-year full time course with a minimum of 24 weeks in placement in schools.
- The PGCE will lead to QTS (qualified teacher status) and may also include Masters modules.\*
- Students who train to become a teacher via this route may be eligible to a tax-free bursary or a scholarship.
- PGCE can also be offered through a SCITT (School-centred initial teacher training)
- Apply via [www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track)  
*\*Dependent on qualification provider. Students are advised to check this.*

### 2. School-led training

- This teacher training route will suit those who prefer a more hands-on approach to learning. Students work within teaching placements and complete teaching theory alongside this.
- Students spend more time in the classroom than those via the university-led route.
- Students achieve QTS (qualified teacher status) with most providing a PGCE which is likely to carry Masters-level credits.\*
- There is an expectation but not a guarantee of employment within the training school at the end of the scheme.  
*\*Dependent on qualification provider. Students are advised to check this.*

To train as a teacher via the School-led approach, students can consider one of the following routes:

#### a) School Direct (unsalaries tuition free programme)

- Schools recruit and train teachers on-the-job, via partnerships with other schools and a university.
- This route leads to QTS status (qualified teacher status) usually via PGCE, with potential to also gain Masters-level credits.\*
- Usually one year full-time
- Available to graduates with a 2:2 or above, with potential eligibility for a bursary/scholarship to assist with training.
- Apply via [www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track)  
*\*Dependent on qualification provider. Students are advised to check this.*

#### b) School Direct (salaried)

- An employed route for teacher trainees. Graduates are usually expected to have a minimum of 3 years transferable work history. \*
- Candidates receive an unqualified teacher's salary from the school. Training costs may be covered but candidates may be charged for PGCE fees if awarded.\*\*
- Typically viewed as an option for career-changers.
- Apply via [www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track)

*\*Some schools may be willing to accept someone with less than 3 years' work experience, especially in certain subjects. Applicants should check directly with the training provider regarding entry requirements.*

*\*\*Candidates should enquire about training costs directly with the school they are applying to.*

**c) Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship**

- Similar to the School Direct route. Candidates are paid an unqualified teacher's salary as you train.
- Training involves a combination of classroom teaching and off-the-job training as you work towards Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).
- Candidates also take an end-point assessment (EPA) in the final term to ensure you're on the right track to be an effective newly-qualified teacher.
- Further details at [www.ucas.com/teaching-option/postgraduate-teaching-apprenticeship](http://www.ucas.com/teaching-option/postgraduate-teaching-apprenticeship)
- Apply via [www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track)

**d) School-centred initial teacher training (SCITT)**

- England based only teacher training programme.
- Similar to School Direct (non-salaried) programme, they are run by schools or groups of schools, and may partner with a university.
- Most of the training is delivered in schools by experienced teaching staff. Candidates are based in a school from the start of the programme.
- This programme typically suits applicants who want to gain a teaching qualification and who already have a lot of school experience.
- Many SCITT courses include a PGCE or Masters credits, but applicants are advised to check with individual providers for more information.
- Apply via [www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track)

**e) Teach First Leadership Development Programme.**

- 2 year salaried programme aimed at highest calibre graduates looking for career in classroom leadership/education management.
- Trains teachers to work in schools in low-income communities across England and Wales.
- Apply directly to Teach First: [www.teachfirst.org.uk/our-programme](http://www.teachfirst.org.uk/our-programme)

**Finding Courses:**

- <https://www.ucas.com/postgraduate/teacher-training/apply-through-ucas-teacher-training/find-teacher-training-programmes>
- England: <https://www.gov.uk/find-postgraduate-teacher-training-courses>
- Wales & Scotland: <https://digital.ucas.com/search>
- Northern Ireland: <https://www.ucas.com/postgraduate/teacher-training/train-teach-northern-ireland>

## Making Applications:

Applications for PGCE, School Direct, SCITT & Apprenticeships through UCAS – Teacher Training.

3 initial choices through Apply 1; if unsuccessful, further choices available through Apply 2:

- Apply 1 opens 13/10/20 & closes 07/09/21
- Apply 2 opens 27/10/20 & closes 21/09/21
- Applicants are advised to apply as soon as possible for popular areas.

Key UCAS dates

- [www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/teacher-training/type/key-date](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/teacher-training/type/key-date)

How to apply on UCAS

- [www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/ucas-teacher-training-apply-and-track).

Advice on filling in your UCAS application

- <https://www.ucas.com/postgraduate/teacher-training/apply-through-ucas-teacher-training/filling-your-ucas-teacher-training-application>

## Funding

Funding for teacher training is dependent on factors such as the training route and degree classification obtained etc. For information about possible funding for the different teacher training routes, please visit:

- <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/funding-my-teacher-training>

## Information about routes into teaching, including funding

- <https://targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/teaching-and-education/advice/330871-how-do-you-train-to-become-a-teacher>
- [www.ucas.com/postgraduate/teacher-training/train-teach-england/postgraduate-teacher-training-england](http://www.ucas.com/postgraduate/teacher-training/train-teach-england/postgraduate-teacher-training-england)
- <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options>

You may also wish to pick up a copy of our '[Funding for Postgraduate Teacher Training](#)' leaflets from **firstpoint** or our website.

If you would like to book a careers appointment, please visit:

<https://worchester.targetconnect.net>

**myCareer**

Date updated 04/02/21 - The information provided is intended as a guideline only. Funding for teacher training may be subject to change. Potential applicants should always research and check eligibility for funding for teacher training via Get Into Teaching or with the teacher training provider)