



Department
for Education

Initial Teacher Training (ITT): Reform Funding

**Guidance for organisations seeking
funding to support the ITT reforms**

May 2023

General mentor training grant

As confirmed in the [Government Response to the ITT Market Review](#) and as set out in the Quality Requirements, in the 2024/25 academic year (between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025), schools that offer ITT placements will need their mentors to complete 20 hours of initial mentor training with an accredited training provider.

Therefore, ITT providers must deliver a mentor training programme of 20 hours to all mentors working with trainees from September 2024. This should include content on the mentor role and skills, the ITT core content framework and its underpinning evidence, and the ITT curriculum which the trainee will be following. Providers should consider prior learning of mentors and, in some cases a shorter or adapted training programme can be offered. Schools can claim for the actual hours of training undertaken by the mentor to a maximum of 20 hours.

This funding will help with the cost of teachers being away from the classroom while they train. This could include:

- paying for someone to take over lessons while a teacher is training
- paying for someone to teach if a teacher takes time off in lieu to train
- overtime payment to the teacher, if they are training outside of normal working hours (teacher workload should be carefully considered in such cases)
- paying for any costs that come from reducing a teacher's other responsibilities so they have time to train

This funding applies to schools that:

- offer placements to ITT trainees, including independent schools and further education organisations
- have mentors working with ITT trainees who started their training at any time between 1 September 2024 and 31 May 2025

How much funding is available to schools

The amount of funding schools will receive depends on:

- the location of the school (recognising the different costs in different areas of the country)
- how many hours a teacher has spent training to be a mentor (which can be up to a maximum of 20 hours)

Find out what location your school is in at **Annex A**.

For each mentor that completes the full 20 hours of training, the table below sets out how much a school can claim. If a mentor undertakes fewer than 20 hours of training, the funding is calculated per hour. For example, if a mentor in a school outside London completed 10 hours of training, the school can claim £438 (£876/2).

Funding Available	Funding Period	Recipient of Funding	How is it paid
Up to £876 (£43.80 per hour) — for schools outside of London (the rest of England)	Academic year 2024/25	Schools who host ITT trainees	Payments will be made in arrears based on the number of hours of training
Up to £902 (£45.10 per hour) — for schools in the Fringe region (the area between Outer London and the rest of England)			Schools will be able to claim this funding at the end of the 2024/25 academic year
Up to £965 (£48.25 per hour) — for schools in Outer London			
Up to £1,072 (£53.60 per hour) — for schools in Inner London			

How to claim funding

Schools will be able to claim this funding at the end of the 2024/25 academic year and will be paid in arrears between September 2025 and January 2026. When schools make a claim, DfE may ask for evidence of:

- a mentor's employment at the school, such as a copy of their employment contract or payslips from the 2024/25 academic year

- arranging placements at their school for ITT trainees, such as communication with providers to organise this
- the hours of initial mentor training

Conditions of this funding

For a school to claim this funding, the mentor must:

- undertake up to 20 hours of initial mentor training
- mentor at least one trainee

Mentor training typically takes place at the start of the academic year or during the preceding summer term. In some instances, training can take place later than the start of the autumn term due to some courses starting later. Teachers can undertake their initial mentor training between 1 April 2024 and 31 May 2025 for courses starting in the 2024/25 academic year.

Mentors who cannot continue with mentoring

A school can claim funding when a mentor does their initial training between 1 April 2024 and 31 May 2025, starts mentoring a trainee but then cannot continue mentoring due to unforeseen circumstances. The school should arrange a new mentor for the trainee. The school can also claim funding for both mentors if they both did their training between 1 April 2024 and 31 May 2025.

A school cannot claim funding if a mentor completed their training but does not work with a trainee, unless this is due to trainees withdrawing before mentoring could start.

Mentors training with different providers

Each ITT provider can develop their own mentor training, which can result in different training for mentors working with different providers. If a school hosts trainees from different providers, a teacher acting as a mentor might have to undertake their initial mentor training with each provider, but the accredited provider will consider prior training when deciding what aspects of their mentor training a mentor should complete.

Schools can claim funding for the time a teacher spends training at each provider.

For schools to claim this funding, a mentor must have worked with a trainee who started their ITT in the 2024/25 academic year (between 1 September 2024 and 31 May 2025). Schools must ensure a trainee has one dedicated mentor during their placement. Other teachers may support elements of the trainee's placement, but schools can only claim funding for the training time of the trainee's dedicated mentor.

This funding is not available to schools if a mentor only works with high potential

initial teacher training (HPITT) trainees, as funding is provided separately for such mentors.

Trainees that defer or withdraw from their training

Schools can claim mentor funding if a mentor works with a trainee who:

- deferred in a previous academic year and then returns to their course in the 2024/25 academic year for any time on school placement
- defers or withdraws after a mentor has started their initial mentor training – mentors can still continue with their training if they commit to being a mentor in the following academic year

Schools cannot claim funding if a trainee withdraws or defers before a mentor starts their training.

How to apply

In Spring 2024, schools and providers will receive further details on how and when to apply for this funding grant, including what documentation will be required to do so, allowing enough time for applications to be processed before the delivery of the new ITT courses in the 2024/25 academic year.

Section 4 – Annexes

Annex A – definition of areas

Inner London Area

“the Inner London Area” means the area comprising the London boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Brent, Camden, City of London, Ealing, Greenwich, Hackney, Hammersmith and Fulham, Haringey, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Lewisham, Merton, Newham, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Wandsworth and Westminster.

London Area

“the London Area” comprises the Inner London Area, the Outer London Area and the Fringe Area.

Fringe Area

“the Fringe Area” means: a) in Berkshire – the Districts of Bracknell Forest, Slough and Windsor and Maidenhead; b) in Buckinghamshire – the Districts of South Buckinghamshire and Chiltern; c) in Essex – the Districts of Basildon, Brentwood, Epping Forest, Harlow and Thurrock; d) in Hertfordshire – the Districts of Broxbourne, Dacorum, East Hertfordshire, Hertsmere, St Albans, Three Rivers, Watford and Welwyn Hatfield; e) in Kent – the Districts of Dartford and Sevenoaks; f) in Surrey – the whole county; and g) in West Sussex – the District of Crawley.

Outer London Area

“the Outer London Area” means the area comprising the London boroughs of Barnet, Bexley, Bromley, Croydon, Enfield, Harrow, Havering, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Kingston-upon-Thames, Redbridge, Richmond-upon-Thames, Sutton and Waltham Forest.

Rest of England

“the Rest of England” covers the localities beyond the areas above.