



Department
for Education

Initial Teacher Training Accreditation Announcement

The Department for Education recognises the considerable investment that both accredited providers and their lead partners have made in developing partnerships to deliver the new Quality Requirements from September 2024. Partnership working has allowed the market to retain good coverage of high quality ITT courses across regions and subjects.

Each ITT partnership operates in unique circumstances, and while some providers see long-term benefits from partnership working, some may find it more efficient to deliver independently.

To ensure ongoing coverage and efficient delivery of initial teacher training where it is needed, DfE is intending to run an accreditation process for eligible organisations, starting in the spring term of 2025.

To be eligible to apply, organisations must:

- have previously held accreditation to deliver ITT leading to QTS
- be delivering as a lead partner during academic year 2024/25
- not have received two consecutive 'requires improvement' or 'inadequate' judgements from Ofsted in the previous inspection cycle (2021-24).

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate their intention and ability to deliver against the Quality Requirements. They will also be asked to provide their plans for a smooth transition from existing partnership arrangements and their readiness to deliver as an accredited provider.

Successful organisations will be accredited to deliver from September 2027, with the option to start delivery from September 2026 if applicants are able to demonstrate a smooth exit of current partnership agreements with the support of their accredited provider. We anticipate that a process for those seeking to start delivery in September 2026 will start in spring term 2025 with a subsequent round later in the year for those seeking to deliver from September 2027. We will discuss the details of the accreditation process with UCET and NASBTT and communicate further information on the requirements and timings to the sector in early 2025.

On Thursday 14th November, the department will open an Expression of Interest for those organisations who are considering applying. Submitting an Expression of Interest aids efficient delivery of the accreditation process but does not commit eligible organisations to

apply when the process opens. DfE will accept applications from eligible organisations who have not completed an Expression of Interest. More information on this can be found here after 9:30am on Thursday: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-itt-accreditation-expression-of-interest>

Currently, there is good coverage of ITT courses across the regions, subjects and phases. The department will continue to monitor market data and insights closely, to assess when and where future rounds of accreditation for new entrants to the market might be needed.