

Qualified teacher status

Qualified teacher status (QTS) is the accreditation that enables you to teach in state-maintained and special schools in England and Wales.

Who needs QTS?

Anyone who wants to teach in a state-maintained school in England or Wales needs to gain qualified teacher status (QTS). To achieve this award, you need to complete a period of initial teacher training (ITT), which will enable you to meet the professional standards for QTS; a formal set of skills and qualities required to be an effective teacher.

How do you get QTS?

There are a number of [different forms of ITT](#), and many more individual courses for you to choose from. You can complete your training at undergraduate or postgraduate level, and even take an employment-based route.

What if you are already an experienced teacher?

You may already have been teaching for some time; in the independent sector, or as an overseas teacher. Regardless of experience, you will still need QTS before you can teach as a qualified teacher in a state-maintained school.

If you have the right experience you won't necessarily need to complete a full programme of ITT. There are options

Overseas Trained Teacher Programme

If you are qualified as a teacher inside the EU, mobility laws apply and you can access teaching positions in the same way as 'home' trained teachers.

If you are qualified as a teacher overseas and outside the EEA, you may be eligible to work in England as a temporary teacher without qualified teacher status (QTS) for up to four years. This programme is currently available in England only.

Once you have found a teaching position in a school, the Overseas Trained Teacher Programme (OTTP) will provide you with your own individual training and assessment programme which will ultimately lead to your qualification to teach in England permanently.

What qualifications do you need?

You must first be qualified as a teacher overseas and working as an unqualified teacher in a school in England.

In addition, if you qualified outside the European Economic Area (EEA), you will need:

- a qualification equivalent to a UK bachelors degree
- a qualification equivalent to GCSE grade C or above in mathematics and English, and
- if you intend to teach primary or key stage 2/3 (ages 7-14), you must also have achieved a standard equivalent to a grade C in a GCSE science subject.

See the web link for Training & Development Agency for Schools for full details.

<http://www.tda.gov.uk/> - Home Page

http://www.tda.gov.uk/teachers/overseas_trained_teachers.aspx