

National Scholarship Scheme to Support Professional Development

<http://www.tda.gov.uk/teacher/developing-career/pd-scholarship.aspx>

What is the scholarship scheme?

The scholarship scheme is open to all teachers in England, with qualified teacher status (QTS) working in eligible schools. The value of the scholarship award will vary according to the nature of the proposed activity; the maximum award will be £3,500.

The primary aims of the scholarship scheme are to encourage you to pursue knowledge independently, to masters level and beyond, making it easier to access masters-level continuing professional development (CPD) in your chosen subject area or to access expert seminars. However funding can also be used for other CPD areas such as 'subject specific seminars'.

“Scholarships will be awarded against stringent criteria to teachers who have the potential to make a significant contribution to the country’s intellectual heritage through the acquisition of deeper subject knowledge.” Nick Gibb

The scholarship will not only allow knowledge, learning, and expertise to be shared across the school system, but we also hope that it will support a culture change, highlighting how important professional development is in every teacher’s career.

Eligibility

Any teacher in England with QTS working in one of the following eligible schools can apply for a scholarship:

- Maintained schools (including Special Schools)
- Non-maintained Special Schools
- City technology colleges
- Academies
- Free Schools
- Pupil referral units (PRUs)

Local authority (LA) peripatetic (centrally employed) teachers with QTS will also be eligible.

Priority areas

Round one of the scholarship scheme will focus on four priority areas where there is a known shortage of expertise, and which reflect Government priorities. You are invited to apply if you wish to develop or strengthen your subject knowledge and skills in:

- Maths
- English
- Science
- SEN (including specific impairments and disabilities)

This is a limited scheme and scholarships will be awarded only to those teachers whose applications meet the scheme criteria. It is anticipated that around 50 per cent of the scholarships will be awarded for SEN and the remaining split equally between the three priority subject areas.

The selection process will be highly rigorous and applicants must demonstrate within their statements:

- The nature of the professional development activity, including its academic and intellectual rigour
- How your school/pupils will benefit from the proposed professional development activity
- The impact for you and your career
- How the learning will impact beyond the school
- How evidence of impact will be provided following the completion of the professional development activity
- That your school supports the application

Funding made available for successful applicants may only be used in payment of the course provider and will be paid directly to the course provider. Confirmation of spend will be required from all applicants.

N.B. All applicants will be required to sign a written agreement stating that if they leave the teaching profession within 3 years of the receipt of the money or fail to complete the activity, all money will be returned to the DfE via the TDA.

Dyslexia Action Postgraduate Programmes 2012

Applicants will **not** be able to use this funding for our October 2011 Certificate and Diploma programmes and should note that these will be the last programmes validated by the University of York.

Applicants considering applying this funding to our March 2012 Certificate or Diploma programmes should note that the details of these new courses and the validating partner have not yet been confirmed and will not be available before the end of this particular application deadline. The TDA has indicated that further rounds of funding may be made available once the success of this particular round of funding has been reviewed.

If you have successfully completed the Postgraduate Diploma in Dyslexia and Literacy then you may be able to apply to use this funding to complete a Master's degree at a UK University using some or all of the credits gained to date.

Deadlines:

Applications Close: **30 September 2011**

Expert Panel meets to consider applications: November 2011

Scholarships awarded and unsuccessful applicants informed: December 2011

For further details please see the TDA website and download the relevant brochures.
See: <http://www.tda.gov.uk/teacher/developing-career/pd-scholarship/eligibility.aspx>