



Department
for Education

Cognition
Learning Group >

Eligibility criteria for FE Providers wanting to take part in Year 4 of the Teacher Mentoring Programme (FY 23-24)

Organisations interested in taking part in Year 4 of the Teacher Mentoring Programme (TMP) will have to formally apply via an application process which will be accessible on the TMP website by 31 August 2023. In the meantime, interested providers are encouraged to submit an [expression of interest which can be accessed here](#).

To be eligible for the TMP, organisations must meet the following criteria which will be confirmed during the expression of interest submission:

1. In order to be eligible for the programme, public and private Further Education providers (excluding the exemptions listed below) must hold one of the following approved contracts directly with ESFA:
 - Apprenticeships (including carry-in, procured non-levy and Apprenticeship Service non-levy and levy)
 - 16-19 Programmes (excluding Academy/School Funding)
 - 16-18 Traineeships
 - Adult Education Budget (excluding devolved AEB)
 - 19+ Traineeships
 - National Careers Service
 - European Social Funding
 - Advanced Learner Loans Facility & Bursary
 - Skills Bootcamps Funding

If you are accepted onto the programme, please note that your organisation's ESFA funding will be checked again at the cohort start date. If you still don't have evidence of a valid ESFA funding contract at the cohort start date you may be required to withdraw from the programme.

Please note: you cannot apply if you are a School / School Sixth Form, Academy, Studio School or University Technical College even if you're in receipt of one or more of these funding streams. Sixth Form Colleges that are currently in the process of, or planning conversion to, an academy in 2023 to 2024 academic year are also not eligible to apply for the TMP.

2. Providers must have an allocated UKPRN number - <https://www.ukrlp.co.uk/>
3. Providers must be located in England and offer training in England.
4. Mentors engaging on the TMP must be directly mentoring a member of staff with teaching responsibilities even if it is not their main role. For example, their job title can also be known as Advanced Practitioner, Instructor, Lecturer, Practitioner, Teacher, Trainer and Tutor. A Mentee must be someone who has three years or less teaching experience.
5. Mentors must be contracted directly by providers (this includes permanent full-time and part-time positions, sessional and those on 0-hour contracts). Mentors who are mentoring ECTs from sub-contracted organisations will be considered on a case-by-case basis with the DfE.
6. Providers will need to confirm that if they apply for a grant that this will not duplicate or overlap with any other DfE funded programmes they may be accessing or taking part in (for example, TMP participants cannot already be benefitting as a result of funding from Taking Teaching Further or the Early Career Framework).
7. As part of the application stage, providers will need to confirm whether they wish to apply for an optional grant for mentors who will undertake the programme. To assess the suitability of the grant, providers will be required to submit an initial budget outline with their application. **Please note: participating providers no longer have to apply for grant funding as a condition of programme participation. Organisations can take part without accessing the grant funding, providing they are able to release mentors to engage with all elements of the programme.**
8. Providers will need to confirm that they are not applying for more than 5 places in each financial year of the programme. For example, if you apply for places in Cohort one or two, the next time your organisation can apply will be for Cohort three or four.
9. Applications from different providers who are part of the same college group will be considered and agreed with the DfE before awarding places and grants.
10. Mentors cannot take part in a programme they have previously partially* or fully completed. For example, a mentor cannot apply for the 'Mentoring Skills for New Mentors' programme if they have undertaken this in a previous year. They can, however, apply for the Advanced programme.

*those who have partially completed a programme in previous years and had to withdraw at an early stage will be considered on a case by case basis with the DfE.

Please note: the eligibility criteria for the TMP are subject to change. Cognition Learning Group and the DfE reserve the right to update and amend the eligibility criteria at any time. Please check this document ahead of submitting an application.

If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please refer to our FAQ document. If this does not answer your question, please contact the Teacher Mentoring Programme Team on tmpenquiries@cognitioneducation.com