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Tender

Future High Potential Initial Teacher Training (HPITT) Programme

Department for Education

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-060236

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04f6ee ([view related notices](#))

Published 26 September 2025, 3:06pm

Scope

Description

The Department for Education (DfE) is pleased to announce the launch of a procurement for the recruitment and training of teachers to support schools in disadvantaged communities. For the purpose of this document this will be referred to as 'the programme', with the new name / identity to be confirmed at a later date.

This procurement will be conducted under the Light Touch Regime using a Competitive Flexible Procedure, in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023. This Notice follows prior market engagement activity, which has informed the development of the procurement strategy, programme scope, and delivery model.

The DfE seeks a supplier(s) capable of delivering a creative and impactful solution tailored to the needs of schools serving disadvantaged communities. We intend to award a single national contract to a supplier(s) who has sole accountability to deliver the full scope of requirements, incorporating school engagement, programme attraction, delivery and participant support.

The indicative total contract value for the future programme is £89 million, with an initial term valued at £54 million covering three cohorts (starting in September 2027, September

2028 and September 2029). The successful supplier may choose to raise additional income through school fees if required*. Extension options may be exercised to support up to five cohorts in total (starting each September from 2027 through to 2031).

The current High Potential Initial Teacher Training contract concludes when the 2026 Initial Teacher Training cohort completes their training. This new contract will ensure continuation of the Department's support to recruit high performing graduates and career changers to teach in schools serving disadvantaged communities.

Overview

The Government wants to enable every pupil to achieve and thrive at school, through excellent teaching and high standards. High quality teaching is the factor in schools and colleges that makes the biggest difference to a young person's educational outcomes.

The programme will support this ambition by helping schools serving low-income communities, with high numbers of disadvantaged and / or low attaining pupils, (known as Eligible Schools) to recruit the teachers they need to improve outcomes for pupils. This is intended to be a distinct and prestigious route into teaching, competing with other high profile and well-respected graduate recruitment programmes to attract high quality candidates into teaching.

The supplier will be required to design, develop and deliver a high-quality, innovative, national, two-year, employment-based, initial teacher training and leadership development programme. The programme will place a significant emphasis on a supplier understanding, and successfully meeting, the teacher recruitment needs of Eligible Schools in their local context and communities. The programme will also focus on retention of participants.

Core Aims and Requirements

The core aims of the programme, in priority order, will be:

- i. Support schools serving low-income communities with high numbers of disadvantaged and / or low attaining pupils (i.e. Eligible Schools) in England to recruit the teachers they need to help improve outcomes for pupils
- ii. Target high-quality candidates with a 2:1 degree or above, who would be otherwise unlikely to join the profession or work in an Eligible School and who have the capability to be highly skilled teachers and emerging leaders, and who are passionate about making a meaningful impact, in these schools.
- iii. Contribute to recruitment in specified subjects but with flexibility to meet the specific recruitment needs of schools.

To support broader aims of teacher retention, the programme will also prepare, support and inspire participants for the range of future career progression opportunities in teaching and school leadership and to make a long-term and positive difference to the outcomes of disadvantaged pupils.

The requirements of the future programme will be:

- Develop and maintain strong partnerships with schools and other partners in areas with the greatest teacher recruitment challenges to understand and meet the needs of schools in terms of teacher recruitment and provide sufficient high-quality employment-based placement opportunities.
- Attract high quality graduates and career changers who have the capability to be highly skilled teachers and emerging leaders with a clear focus on those who might not otherwise join the profession or work in a school serving disadvantaged areas.
- Recruit and select specified numbers of participants to meet the needs of schools and make a positive impact to teacher supply, teacher quality and pupil attainment.
- Develop and deliver a high-quality employment-based Initial Teacher Training programme (in conjunction with accredited Initial Teacher Training providers where appropriate) which complies with the Initial Teacher Training and Early Career Framework and enables participants to meet the Teachers' Standards and achieve Qualified Teacher Status.
- Develop and deliver a leadership development programme that is integrated into the programme, to support participants to become excellent practitioners and emerging leaders who will have a positive impact on teaching quality in schools in disadvantaged communities.
- Maximise participant completion of the programme and support their transition into teaching roles beyond the programme, in schools serving disadvantaged communities.
- Provide opportunities for programme participants to form and maintain networks to support career progression and retention in schools serving disadvantaged communities.

Additional information

The programme will recruit and train three initial cohorts of participants for the 2027/28, 2028/29 and 2029/30 academic years. We expect recruitment for each cohort to take place during the preceding academic year. The first cohort of participants is expected to commence their training in September 2027 with recruitment beginning by October 2026.

The recruitment target for each cohort, which will be a key performance indicator (KPI),

will be 1,000 participants. We will set additional KPIs for the number of participants achieving Qualified Teacher Status, completing the Programme and completing the Programme in specific priority subjects, as well as a KPI on Social Value. Further information about the KPIs, how they will be linked to the payment model, as well as the subsidiary performance indicators is provided in the tender documentation published alongside this notice.

The successful supplier will have an option to use their own identity / brand alongside the new identity for the future programme (which the Department will develop).

*Any such fees will be subject to a cap, which will vary by subject and is set out in the tender documentation.

Total value (estimated)

- £89,000,000 excluding VAT
- £106,800,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 25 April 2026 to 31 October 2031
- Possible extension to 31 October 2033
- 7 years, 6 months, 6 days

Description of possible extension:

Subject to satisfactory performance and the necessary approvals, the contract may be extended to support up to two additional cohorts (2030 and 2031 cohorts). This may be achieved either through a single extension covering both additional cohorts, or through two separate extensions, each covering one additional cohort. Full details of the extension arrangements are set out in the tender documentation.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 79600000 - Recruitment services

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)
- UKI - London
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

The potential supplier must either hold Initial Teacher Training accreditation or work with a supply chain partner who has Initial Teacher Training accreditation.

Please see <https://www.gov.uk/education/initial-teacher-training-itt> for more information.

Submission

Enquiry deadline

20 October 2025, 12:00pm

Submission type

Tenders

Tender submission deadline

13 November 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

14 April 2026

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type
Total Tendered Price	Contract Charges and modelled School Fee rates as further described within the tender pack.	Price
Total Weighted Quality Score	Total Weighted Quality Score as further described within the tender pack.	Quality

Weighting description

Final tenders will be evaluated using a Price Per Quality Point (PPQP) model. This approach is designed to identify the tender that best meets the Department's requirements in relation to both quality and price. The PPQP model calculates a ratio by dividing the modelled tender price by the total weighted quality score. Full details of the evaluation methodology, including scoring and weightings, is provided in the tender documentation.

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)
- Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Competitive flexible procedure description

The procurement will follow the Competitive Flexible Procedure under the Procurement Act 2023. The anticipated key stages are as follows:

Issue of Procurement Documents - Full tender documentation made available to potential suppliers.

Deadline for Initial Bid Clarification Questions - Suppliers submit questions on the initial tender documents.

Clarification Responses Issued by Contracting Authority - Responses to supplier queries provided.

Initial Tender Submission Deadline - Deadline for submission of initial bids.

Evaluation and Governance Period (Initial Bids) - Assessment of initial tenders in accordance with the evaluation criteria.

Notification of Initial Outcome and Feedback - Initial results and feedback shared with suppliers.

A clarification and dialogue phase with shortlisted suppliers.

Invitation for Final Tender Submissions issued.

Deadline for Final Bid Clarification Questions - Final opportunity for suppliers to seek clarification.

Final Tender Submission Deadline - Deadline for submission of final bids.

Evaluation and Governance Period (Final Bids) - Final assessment of tenders.

Contract Award Notice and Standstill Period - Publication of award decision, and commencement of the standstill period.

Documents

Documents to be provided after the tender notice

The Department for Education will conduct this procurement via the Jaggaer eSourcing Portal. All procurement documents, including the Invitation to Tender (ITT), supporting materials, and any updates or clarifications, will be made available through the portal. Interested suppliers must register on Jaggaer to access the documents and participate in the procurement process.

All communication with suppliers, including the submission of clarification questions and the provision of responses, will also be managed through the Jaggaer system. Suppliers are advised to regularly check the portal for updates and ensure their contact details are kept up to date.

Contracting authority

Department for Education

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDZG-3487-DPVD

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Website: <https://education.app.jaggaer.com>

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government