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Planning

Accredited learning programmes across the policy profession

Department for Education

UK3: Planned procurement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-061682

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059e28

Published 2 October 2025, 12:49pm

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

Scope

Description

The Civil Service Policy Profession consists of around 38,500 civil servants making it the second largest profession in government. It has a presence across the regions and nations of the UK. The work of policy professionals has a profound impact on the lives of

people across the country. Upskilling policy makers will mean they develop better policies that will deliver better outcomes for the public.

The Policy Profession Unit, which is part of the Department for Education but works on behalf of policy professionals across government, has responsibility for overseeing the development of the Policy Profession. This includes building the skills and capability of individual policy makers at different stages of their careers. We are seeking to partner with higher education institution(s) to develop and deliver, from September 2027, accredited programme(s) at postgraduate level that build the skills and capabilities of UK civil servants in line with the Policy Profession Standards.

Please note, this notice is not being used to signify the commencement of any competitive process and does not constitute any commitment by the Department for Education. The Department for Education will hold this contract, however the programme(s) must be accessible to all civil service departments.

Funding estimates included within this notice are based off of historic student volumes and spending. Actual contract value will be determined by actual student volumes that will be funded by individual departments. The Department makes no commitment at this stage to the final funding envelope for contractual activity.

Total value (estimated)

- £12,500,000 excluding VAT
- £12,500,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2027 to 31 August 2032
- 5 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80300000 - Higher education services

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

1 December 2025

Tender submission deadline

1 April 2026, 11:59pm

Tenders may be submitted electronically

No

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

31 May 2026

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

Department for Education

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDZG-3487-DPVD

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street

London

SW1P3BT

United Kingdom

Email: Core.PROCUREMENT@education.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government