

A man with glasses, wearing a white shirt, a dark vest, and a yellow tie, stands in a classroom. He is looking directly at the camera. In the background, other students are seated at desks, and a periodic table of elements is visible on the wall.

# **NASBTT Administrators' Forum**

**September 2025**

# Overview



Department  
for Education

1. **Introduction & Recruitment cycle overview**
2. **Changes to our Services: Find and Publish**
3. **Changes to our Services: Apply and Manage**
4. **In-house ITT collection for HEIs**
5. **Mandating DfE digital recruitment services**
6. **Questions?**

# Recruitment cycle

## Overview of the 24/25 cycle



Department  
for Education

# The 2024-2025 recruitment cycle

Sept 2025

Candidates who have  
submitted  $\geq 1$   
application

**55,377**

+6% 2023/24

PRIMARY

**19,789**

+4% 2023/24

SECONDARY

**39,491**

+6% 2023/24

Candidates who  
have received  
 $\geq 1$  offer

**31,876**

+10% 2023/24

**11,818**

+7% 2023/24

**20,295**

+11% 2023/24

Candidates who  
have accepted an  
offer

**26,720**

+10% 2023/24

**9,880**

+9% 2023/24

**16,843**

+11% 2023/24

# Changes to our services

## Find and Publish



Department  
for Education

# Thank you!

We know we have made a lot of changes to Find and Publish over the last recruitment cycle, and we really appreciate all your engagement, feedback and patience.

Total searches, users, page views and clicks excluding bots

This cycle

|                       |                            |                               |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Searches<br>3,230,584 | Unique Users*<br>1,504,638 | Course Pageviews<br>2,080,089 | Clicks to Apply<br>348,210 |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|

Previous cycle

(at the same point in time compared to the current cycle)

|                       |                            |                               |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Searches<br>1,853,280 | Unique Users*<br>1,213,486 | Course Pageviews<br>1,724,030 | Clicks to Apply<br>270,928 |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|

Comparison of current cycle to previous cycle

|     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 74% | 24% | 21% | 29% |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|

# Summary of changes

| Find                                           | Publish                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Redesign of home page to make searching easier | Data validation of schools already added                |
| Improved filtering on results page             | Import and validation of schools imported from Register |
| Improved course design and readability         | Increased structuring of course pages and word limits   |
| Candidate accounts                             | Rollover date moved to September                        |
| Both PGTA and TDA promoted on home page        |                                                         |

# What's coming up in the short term?

| Find                                                   | Publish                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Improving filtering and sorting on course results page | Investigation of whether a "master" course to hold information consistent across all courses |
| Iteration of candidate accounts functionality          |                                                                                              |

**Any other suggestions for us to consider?**

# Changes to our services

## Apply and Manage



Department  
for Education

# Summary of changes

1. **Holiday dates**
2. **Find a candidate – new cycle**
3. **Confirming deferrals**
4. **Candidate declaration of past ITT training**
5. **Qualifications requirements flag**

*\*Please see last week's webinar recording for details of the above.*

# Summary of changes

## 1 Holiday dates

- Inactive 'working days' will still include Christmas-New year
- New content to set candidate response expectations around Christmas and Easter

## 2 Find a Candidate

- Candidates can currently opt-in
- The feature will list candidates, and we will remind you of the features around **Nov 20th**

## 3 Confirming deferrals

- You will have the ability to select a different course/location if the original deferred course is not available (rather than having to contact support)

# Summary of changes

## 4 Candidate declaration of past ITT training

- A new question in the application form will require all candidates to declare the training provider, dates and details of past teacher training
- You should speak to candidates about this and decide whether to request a reference.
- *[Further work to come to join up Apply and Register service data for automating past training flagging]*

## 5 Qualifications flagging

- An interruption page will now show for any candidates whose degree does not meet basic course requirements
- More international candidates (from countries using a similar to UK grading system) will now also see this page.
- *[We will monitor effectiveness for potential wider spread use of qualification flagging]*

# What's coming up?

Areas of work on the Apply/Manage team roadmap for the next few months

## High priority

- Exploring provider barriers to service use
- Investigating the presence and potential reduction of bias within the recruitment process
- Service accessibility compliance

## Medium Priority

- Improving the references process
- Making more sections editable for candidates (qualifications likely next)
- Refinements to the logging in via One Login

# In-house ITT collection for HEIs

## Register



Department  
for Education

# In-house ITT collection for HEIs

## Support for Providers and Vendors

- Continuing bi-weekly meetings with Student Record System vendors.
- API sandbox environment remains open for testing and development
- Bi-weekly provider drop-in sessions running throughout census
- Now the service is live first contact point for queries is the becoming a teacher support desk:  
[becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk](mailto:becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk)

## Metrics

- Over 500 trainees added to Register via the API
- 18 groups of trainees added via CSV bulk add new trainees tool
- 60 unique users to date between the two new services.
- Most providers now have access to a SRS with an option for API integration
- We estimate a roughly even split between providers using the API vs CSV import

# Mandating the use of DfE digital recruitment services

## Policy



Department  
for Education

# Mandating the use of DfE digital recruitment services

We are intending to mandate the use of the Apply for Initial Teacher Training service (Apply) and the associated Manage, Find and Publish services, either directly or via an API, for all postgraduate ITT and TDA courses that lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), starting in September 2027 or later.

This will be specified in the Initial Teacher Training criteria from September 2026 and will come into effect at the start of the **2026/27 recruitment cycle**. This allows providers who are currently recruiting outside our services a full cycle of preparation for the transition.

## Why?

Ensure accurate in-cycle data, which is crucial for performance and funding projections

Ensure parity of candidate recruitment experiences across all providers

Give all candidates access to our additional tailored interventions, to provide additional support

## Data request:

Until the requirement comes into effect, we need to improve the accuracy of our in-cycle data. Any providers who continue to recruit outside our services in the **upcoming 2025-2026 cycle** will be asked to share recruitment data with the department quarterly.

**ACTION:** Providers who have managed any ITT applications outside DfE services in the current recruitment cycle, or intend to in the upcoming cycle, are encouraged to inform DfE by emailing [becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk](mailto:becomingateacher@digital.education.gov.uk).

# Any questions?



Department  
for Education