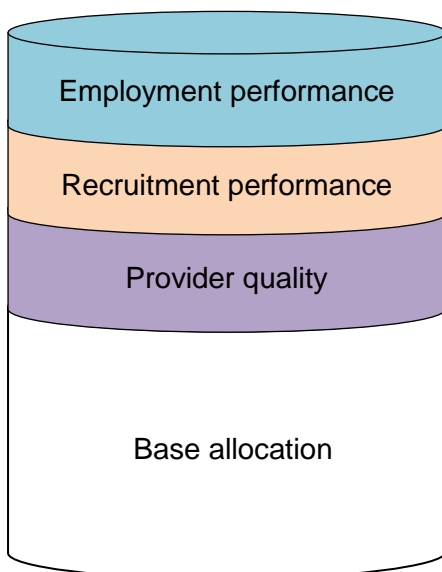


Annex 1 – methodology for allocating ITT places AY 2012/13

The TDA Board agreed the methodology for allocating ITT places for the 2012/13 academic year at its meeting in November 2011. Overall allocations reflect the ITT targets published by the Department for Education for primary and secondary phases and individual secondary subjects. Target subjects vary slightly from the subject to which we allocate places.

Ministers' intentions to steadily increase the proportion of training places allocated to school-led provision in the coming years is reflected in the increase of school-centred (SCITT) provision. With the expected publication of proposals for a major revision to employment-based routes, places previously allocated to the graduate teacher programme, overseas trained teacher programme and registered teacher programme have been excluded in full from calculations.

Changes in allowed allocation levels for each subject will vary from ITT targets depending upon previous allocation levels. We use the 2011/12 baseline allocations as the starting point for allocations. This means that any one-year adjustments agreed between the TDA and providers will not be part of the calculations for 2012/13 places. For 2012/13, the TDA will calculate places by building up the cohort for a subject, provider and training route, rather than the previous approach of successive cuts to place cohorts.



A base allocation is set which varies depending on the current volume of places allocated in that subject, the relative change in the target for that subject and the distribution of places between providers of different types, quality and performance.

Each of the other blocks making up the allocations represents an agreed criterion for adjusting places. Again the scale of adjustment will vary from subject to subject, e.g. if the subject has many high quality providers, then they will bear a larger proportion of any required reduction in numbers than a subject where there are fewer high quality providers involved.

The effect of each criterion is limited to the size of the "quota" available for that criterion. The greatest proportion is in relation to provider quality, then employment and performance in equal amounts.

An individual provider's total change in allocation will depend on the mix of subjects they deliver. There will more impact on places if they operate in areas where there have been bigger cuts and/or no growth in targets.

Allocations adjustment criteria

- 1) **Base allocations:** each provider will be allocated a fixed proportion of their previous baseline subject-based cohort for AY2011/12. The proportion will vary from subject to subject depending on the year to year change in subject targets.

- 2) **Quality-based cuts:** we make allocation adjustments based on providers' Ofsted inspection reports and gradings. The Ofsted inspection cycle for 2008 to 2011 was completed in July 2011 and all providers were graded according to the table below (at primary or secondary phase level for mainstream providers or a single grading for employment-based provision):

Rating	Overall effectiveness	Capacity to improve	Additional considerations
A*	1	1	Outstanding rating for all 9 inspection sub-elements and previous outstanding inspection demonstrating sustained excellence
A	1	1	Without meeting above criteria
	1	2	
B	2	1	
	2	2	
C	2	3	
	3	2	
	3	3	
CR	3	3	Previous satisfactory inspection grade indicating ongoing performance issues
D	Any 4		Non-compliance

A single set of inspection grades for all provision allows us to differentiate to a greater degree between providers. We have looked to reward the best providers (those who are graded as outstanding in all respects and have shown consistency in excellence over time) and imposed a greater proportion of the allocation cuts on providers with repeated satisfactory gradings.

Ofsted intends to re-inspect all satisfactory providers during the 2011/12 academic year. If a provider improves its quality rating we would consider modifying its allocation of places, depending upon their capacity to accommodate extra places and the effect this would have on the balance of places for that subject and overall provision.

The arithmetic effect of grades on allocations will vary from subject to subject. This is because we have different changes in subject targets and the mix of providers (by quality) delivering each subject varies considerably.

An A* provider will receive the full provider quality allocation quota for that subject, with reducing proportions allocated for lesser provider quality, such that a provider rated as CR (repeat satisfactory) or D (non-compliant) will receive no provider quality-based allocation in that subject.

The restrictions on allocations of places in any subjects for provider quality are limited by the size of the criterion quota available; therefore no providers will have their allocations adjusted by more than the provider quality block quota.

- 3) **Previous recruitment to ITT courses** is assessed such that a provider recruiting at the same level as their allocations will be entitled to the full recruitment-based quota. Adjustments to the level of allocations is considered in two ways:

- a. Firstly, previous **under-recruitment** is assessed on the basis of the provider's best annual performance over the past three years where recruitment is measured by comparing allocations with actual registrations on ITT courses (taking the registrations from the Census Publication data). If a provider's best recruitment performance still indicated under-recruitment against allocations, the cohort will be reduced by the level of under-recruitment (subject to the limits described below).
- b. Secondly, **over-recruitment** in AY 2011/12 is penalised with one place removed from the allocation for every two places over-recruited (subject to the limits described below). Where possible, we have tried to alleviate these adjustments if there was acceptable offsetting available between priority subjects (this is not automatic and we ask providers to request any change in allocations, including virements between subjects).

As with provider quality, the restrictions on allocations of places in any subjects for this criterion are limited by the size of the quota available for recruitment.

- 4) The **employment rates** indicator measures the proportion of ITT trainee teachers who have a successful employment outcome (defined as a QTS completer who becomes a NQT within a short period of time following QTS completion).

GTCE data has been used to calculate outcomes. A provider's best performance over time was compared with the sector average for each subject. If the provider's rate was significantly below the average a reducing ratio was applied to the provider's cohort.

If a provider has achieved high employment outcomes, they will receive the full quota of places available for this criterion. If employment outcomes are very poor, providers will not receive any of the employment outcome criterion quota in their allocations. Between these extremes, places allocated will vary appropriately.

- 5) Providers have indicated to the TDA their **capacity** to deliver ITT provision in 2011/12. If the calculated cohort is in excess of the indicated capacity in any subject, then the allocation is restricted to the capacity number. In a small number of cases, providers indicated a re-distribution of provision by subject in their capacity returns and some adjustment of cohorts was necessary.
- 6) The Education Act 2005 placed an obligation on the TDA to consider the balance of allocations between **denominational** providers and non-denominational providers. We are awaiting confirmation whether this will remain an obligation of the Teaching Agency after April 2012. In the meantime, we continue to monitor the balance of allocated places, with consistent proportions of places.

Splitting of "other science" cohorts

In 2011/12, providers were allocated places for other science to deliver biology and general or combined science training. For 2012/13, whilst a single ITT target still covers both areas, ministers have indicated their desire for specialist science teaching and teacher training. Therefore we have allocated separate biology and combined science cohorts this year.

The split between the two subjects underlines the emphasis on biology. Places are calculated as normal using the established adjustment criteria to ascertain a joint cohort size for both subjects. Calculated places are then compared with capacity returns with priority given to the biology element of the return and separate cohorts are determined.

We appreciate that this method may produce an allocation of places that is inconsistent with providers' wishes. If you wish to propose a different breakdown of places, then please discuss this with your Regional Lead or contact the allocations team. Please note the net number of places available is likely to be unchanged, irrespective of the split in places.

Full-time and part-time allocations

For postgraduate places, given the small cohort sizes, new entrant places have been calculated as one subject-based number. Where providers run both postgraduate full-time and part-time training cohorts in a particular subject, these have been split based on a provider's allocation of places in 2011/12. If a provider wishes to change these proportions, they should contact the allocations team and this can be done, although there will be no net increase in the number of places allocated.

Undergraduate places have been calculated at the individual cohort level, i.e. part-time and full-time provision has been calculated separately. However, as above, if a provider wishes to revise the proportions of places, please let us know.

Physics with maths

In response to ministers' wishes we have piloted a programme to recruit trainees to a new ITT provision of physics with maths. The recent allocation of places for this provision is included in providers' wider allocations, in addition to the allocation of places to the standard physics subject.

Protection of school-led provision

To reflect ministers' proposals to increase the proportion of ITT places delivered in school-led settings in the coming years, we are looking to develop provision amongst these types of providers. To help move toward this, for 2012/13 we have looked to protect SCITT providers from discretionary cuts, but not at the expense of reductions in provider quality and performance. SCITT providers with quality ratings of A*, A and B receive the full quality quota for their cohorts protected. If a SCITT provider has indicated an increased capacity to deliver extra ITT provision, we have looked to increase allocations accordingly.

Further adjustment of allocated places

We monitor continually the level of allocations and we make necessary adjustments, especially in respect of providers' capacity to deliver provision in hard-to-fill subjects or acceptable changes to reflect recruitment and training delivery issues for individual providers.

We ask providers to consider the allocations that have been set and if they have any queries or concerns to raise them with their Regional Lead or the allocations team at allocations@tda.gov.uk.

Given the further reductions in many cohort sizes for this allocation of 2012/13, large numbers of cohorts are very small and the question of their viability must be addressed. Whilst we have allocated places at this level for 2012/13, we do not see this as a sustainable position in the long term, as the current pressures of falling secondary targets and concentration of provision in school-led provision will intensify.

As such, we will take action in the next few months to consolidate the allocation of places for 2013/14. As well as the formal action we propose to take, we believe providers will make independent assessments of their own position and consider their participation in their current spread of subjects in 2012/13. We anticipate a period of volatility in allocations as providers make these decisions. Regional leads and the funding and allocations teams will be available to assist providers in considering these changes and help negotiate or broker immediate adjustments to allocation cohorts, either as direct changes or in agreements between providers.