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Circular

## Initial teacher training: Secondary undergraduate placement grants and strategy funding 2012/13

**Date:** 02 November 2011  
**Reference:** W11/39HE  
**To:** Heads of higher education institutions in Wales providing  
initial teacher training  
**Response by:** No response required  
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This circular informs initial teacher training providers of arrangements for secondary undergraduate placement grants and strategy funding from 2012/13 onwards.

This document is available online, in large print, Braille, on CD and on audio CD and cassette. Should you or someone you know require this in an alternative format, please contact us on (029) 2068 2225 or email [info@hefcw.ac.uk](mailto:info@hefcw.ac.uk).



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## Introduction

- 1 This circular informs initial teacher training (ITT) providers of arrangements for secondary undergraduate placement grants and strategy funding from 2012/13 onwards.

### ITT: Secondary undergraduate placement grants 2012/13

- 2 We wrote to ITT providers in May 2011 to inform them about arrangements for Secondary Undergraduate Placement grants in 2011/12. We also said that we would inform providers of the HEFCW Council's decision on arrangements for 2012/13 before the end of the year. These arrangements are set out below:

- a) **Existing students entering the third year of their course in 2012/13:** As indicated in May 2011, the Council has confirmed that it will continue to provide funding to ITT providers for placement grants for these students at £1,200 per student in 2012/13.

The total sum for each provider will be calculated based on student recruitment and progression rates as returned as part of the 2011/12 Higher Education Students Early Student Statistics (HESES) survey.

We would emphasise that these arrangements apply to **existing** students only, as they entered their courses on the understanding that they would receive a placement grant. It does not apply to any new entrants, who, for whatever reason, may join a course in its third year.

- b) **Second year students/New entrants** We **will not** make funding available to ITT providers for placement grants to students who are in the second year of their courses in 2012/13 or to new entrants. We emphasised to providers in May that, although there was provision in 2011/12 for new entrants to secondary undergraduate courses for the first year of their course, they should be given no expectation that this funding would be available in the following years of their courses. Similarly, we asked providers to make clear to prospective students and applicants for 2012/13 that they should not have the expectation that a placement grant would be available.

- 3 The provision for third year students in 2012/13 will therefore mark the end of the HEFCW-funded secondary undergraduate placement scheme. It will be for providers to consider and put in place appropriate support for secondary undergraduate students from within their overall resources.

## **Initial Teacher Training: Strategy funding 2012/13**

- 4 The current three-year ITT strategy funding cycle will come to an end in 2011/12. In the light of the reducing amount of HEFCW grant to support funding streams of this nature, continuing this funding in the long-term is unlikely to be sustainable. To allow a transitional period, however, the Council has agreed *in principle* to continue funding, at a reduced level in 2012/13, with the possibility of funding at a further reduced level in 2013/14. We would ask providers to roll their strategies forward on an annual basis, rather than writing new strategies. We would stress that this is an in principle decision and that actual budgets will not be confirmed by the Council before spring next year. (Please note: this ITT strategy funding would not be able to be used to replace previous HEFCW funding for secondary undergraduate placement grants.)

### **Further information / responses to**

- 5 For further information, contact Alison Allan (telephone 029 2068 2223; email [alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk](mailto:alison.allan@hefcw.ac.uk) ).