

Teaching Qualification Independent Sector (TQIS)

Frequently Asked Questions

(For entry into academic year 2021/22)

1. Who is this programme for?

The programme has been designed in partnership with the Scottish Council for Independent Schools (SCIS). It is for experienced teachers who are employed as teachers in independent schools in Scotland and do not hold an initial teaching qualification.

2. How does it support the requirement for teachers in the independent sector to register with the GTCS?

On successful completion of this programme you will be awarded a PGDE Teaching Qualification Independent Sector and full registration as a teacher.

3. What qualifications do I need to apply for the programme?

To apply for this programme you must hold a degree, honours degrees are preferred. This is separate to your GTCS application for provisional registration.

4. How does the programme connect to my GTCS registration?

To complete registration with the GTCS you will be required to meet their entry requirements for teacher education i.e. all registered teachers must hold passes in Higher English and National 5 Mathematics (or a recognised equivalent). To register as a primary teacher you must also hold a degree. To register as a teacher of a secondary subject you must hold the required degree qualifications for the subject you teach.

The GTCS Memorandum on Entry requirements can be accessed here:

<http://www.gtcs.org.uk/web/FILES/about-gtcs/memorandum-on-entry-requirements-to-programmes-of-ite-in-scotland.pdf>

We strongly recommend that you contact Claire Williamson at the GTCS to discuss your individual situation before applying for the programme. Her contact details are:

Claire.Williamson@gtcs.org.uk

5. Do I need to hold a particular type of post to be eligible to apply?

To apply for the programme you must be employed as a teacher, with class teaching as part of your role in a school. This can be a part-time teaching post, or a different post with teaching as part of your responsibilities. Prior to applying for the course please contact Claire.williamson@gtcs.org.uk who will be able to discuss eligibility for registration with you.

6. What does the programme include?

There are two parts to the programme. In the first part you take three 20 credit modules at SCQF Level 10:

- Teacher Professionalism
- Curriculum and Pedagogy
- Policy into Practice

To begin the second part of the programme you must hold Provisional (Conditional) registration with the GTCS and study the final, 60 credit module at SCQF Level 10:

- Evidencing the Standard for Full Registration

7. How is it taught?

This is a part-time distance-learning programme that is taught online through the UHI Virtual Learning Environment. There is an induction session in Perth on the first Saturday of each semester to introduce you to your module tutor, fellow students and the module you are following that semester.

8. How does it connect with my work in school?

The first three modules ask you to reflect, critically analyse and develop the curriculum, pedagogy and policies you are using in your teaching. This supports you to use the fourth module to lead a professional enquiry in your setting that enables you to evidence that you meet the Standard for Full Registration.

9. Are there any observations?

Yes.

The programme works with the existing quality assurance structures in schools, including observations and professional review and development processes. The final module includes an observation of learning and teaching by a member of University staff.

10. What happens if I need to take a break from my studies?

You can apply to suspend your studies. Your personal academic tutor (PAT) will support you through that process.

11. What does it cost and how can I pay?

The programme cost is £1800. As a registered student with Perth College UHI you can agree an individual payment structure with the college.

12. How do I apply?

Follow the instructions on the University website. Scroll down the page and click the entry date you want to apply for. The course page can be accessed here:

<https://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/courses/pgde-teaching-qualification-independent-sector/>

13. How are people selected for the programme?

Each application is read by the Programme Leader, who checks qualifications and that you hold a letter of support from your school. Places are offered on a 'first come first served' basis.

14. How many places are available?

There are a maximum of 20 places available on each cohort.

Questions about applying or an existing application?

Contact : Katrina MacIntyre

Email: Katrina.macintyre.perth@uhi.ac.uk