

# Guide for 16 to 19 institutions expressing an interest to deliver T levels for the 2020 to 2021 academic year

# Introduction

To deliver any of the first 3 T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year providers must express their interest by submitting a survey. When expressing an interest, providers will be asked whether they meet all of the requirements of the criteria to be eligible to deliver T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

## How to Express an Interest

Providers can express an interest by completing an online survey. The questions asked are to assess whether providers meet the criteria requirements. The requirements of the criteria are available in the [T levels 2020 to 2021 guidance](https://www.gov.uk/%20guidance/invitation-to-express-an-interest-to-deliver-t-levels-in-the-2020-to-2021-academic-year) on GOV.UK. The questions also gather detailed information specifically on employer engagement and your strategy to maximise take-up of T levels. These have a 400 word count maximum set per question and the information from these 2 questions will not be used in the selection process. We strongly advise that you read the guidance before completing the survey.

Completed surveys should demonstrate whether you meet all of the requirements of the criteria to qualify to deliver T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

**The deadline for expressing an interest is 12.00 (midday) on 28 February 2018.** If you miss this deadline or fail to provide the detail requested, your expression of interest will not be considered and you will not be able to deliver T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

# Guidance notes

# Completing provider details

#### Question 1- Provider details

The information contained within these questions is mandatory, as it will enable us to identify you and contact the key person or deputy if needed.

#### Provider name:

Please include the full name of your institution.

#### Provider address:

Please list your full address including your postcode and a link to your website (if applicable).

#### Provide UKPRN:

Please confirm your UKPRN in this text box.

#### Provider UPIN:

Please confirm your UPIN in this text box.

#### Question 2 - Provider type:

Please use the dropdown box to choose one of the provider types.

#### Question 3 - Key contact details

Please provide details of a key contact we could contact if needed. Please include name, job title, telephone number and email address.

# Expression of Interest - questions

Providers expressing an interest to deliver T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year must complete all of the following questions and must meet the requirements of the criteria covered in questions 1 to 7 to be eligible to deliver.

**Questions 4, 5 and 6 – Do you currently deliver relevant Level 3 technical or vocational qualifications in the 2020 pathways. The pathways are Software applications design and development pathway (Digital route); Education pathway (Education and Childcare route) and Building Services Engineering pathway (Construction route).**

For each of these questions please select yes or no to demonstrate whether you deliver qualifications in any of the pathways. If yes, please provide details of the qualifications you offer. If you deliver level 3 qualifications but these are in other subject areas, outside of the 3 pathways, these will not qualify. If you deliver qualifications below level 3 in these pathways for example, level 2, these also do not qualify. T levels will exist as high quality, rigorous, level 3 study programmes and therefore we want providers already delivering qualifications at this level to implement the T levels first.

Relevant qualifications are those that meet all of the folowing criteria, ie they are:

* at level 3 technical or vocational qualifications
* at least 360glh (the size of an A level)
* within the relevant Sector Subject Area (SSA) according to Section 96 and relevant to the T levels to be introduced in September 2020, and
* categorised as either an Occupational Qualification, QCF Qualification or Vocationally-Related Qualification

The relevant SSAs are:

* Software Applications Design and Development – 6.1 ICT practitioners; 9.3 Media and communication
* Building Services Engineering – 5.2  Building and construction; 4.1 Engineering
* Education – 1.5  Child development and well-being; 13.2 Direct learning support

We will consider other qualifications which aren’t included in the SSAs above, it you can provide a justification.

The [occupational maps](https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/about/news-events/institute-for-apprenticeships-launches-consultation-into-t-level-occupational-maps/) consultation was published 14 December and is a useful source of reference to check the occupations that are covered by each pathway.

Please note that if your answer is no to all of questions 4, 5 and 6, then you have not met the requirement to be eligible to deliver T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year and may wish to not proceed with the survey.

For each pathway please incude the correct qualification name and qualification number or learner aim reference number as available from the Learner Aims Reference Service, on the link below.

<https://hub.fasst.org.uk/Learning%20Aims/Pages/default.aspx>

**Question 7 - How many students (in total) were enrolled on these qualifications in the 2016 to 2017 academic year in your institution? Please state the number for each T level pathway. You will need to have 10 or more students as a minimum to qualify.**

Please state how many of your students took qualifications in each of the T level pathways in 2016 to 2017 academic year. If you have students taking qualifications on more than one pathway then state how many are taking qualifications on each pathway.

You will need to have 10 or more students as a minimum currently taking qualifications relevant to the T level pathway to qualify. We want institutions delivering T levels in 2020 to start with a reasonable number of students to ensure an effective start. If you have fewer than 10 students on a pathway you will not be eligible to deliver T levels from that particular pathway in the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

**Question 8 - Please confirm your Ofsted rating**

Please select your Ofsted rating from your most recent Ofsted inspection. Providers who hold a rating of Outstanding will be given priority in the selection process. Providers with a rating of Inadequate or Requires Improvement will not be invited to deliver in the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

We recognise that some providers will not yet have been inspected by Ofsted and there is a ‘not inspected’ box for those providers to select. There is a text box for these providers to demonstrate how they have good or outstanding quality standards. You should include information on the performance measures you use to demonstrate this. You should include any information you hold on your teaching quality and the quality of courses and student satisfaction measures.

**Question 9 - Do you have a current average attainment grade of Merit or above for the qualifications listed at questions 4, 5 and 6?**

Please select yes or no. Providers must have an average attainment grade of merit or above for the technical or vocational qualifications they deliver currently on the pathway.

In the following text box, please state the details of how you have calculated your average attainment grade using 2016 to 2017 academic year data.

To assess this we will use the methodology published in the [16 to 18 Accountability Measures Technical Guide](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/642348/16-18_Accountability_Measures_Technical_Guide2.pdf). The methodology is described in paragraphs 6.3 to 6.9 and Table 6.1.b of the guide. The methodology adds together the points achieved by students then divides by the number of entries to get the average score per entry. The same grading threshold is then used to turn them into an average grade.

Not all providers are included in the performance tables and not all qualifications use the same grading structure. Providers should refer to the published methodology, and follow this as closely as possible, to demonstrate an equivalent average grading. If the qualifications you deliver do not use a grade of Merit then you should answer that you have provided alternative data.

**Question 10 Is your financial health satisfactory or above?**

Please select yes or no. Institutions must have a minimum of satisfactory financial health to qualify. FE Colleges will have been notified of their Financial Health rating and Independent Learning Providers will have been notified by the ESFA if their financial health has been graded as inadequate.

**Questions 11 to 12 – Not used in the selection process**

The final 2 questions in the survey are open questions and ask for detail of your engagement with employers and on maximising take up.

**Question 11 - What current links do you have with local employers in areas related to the above pathways and how do you engage with them in delivering the practical and/or theoretical training elements of qualifications?**

Collaborating with local employers will be essential to successful T level delivery. You should set out in this section how you currently engage with local employers or other organisations and how you will build on these relationships to enhance your delivery model, including the successful delivery of work placements, a key requirement of a T level programme.

**Question 12 - What is your strategy for maximising the take up of T levels and how would delivering T levels affect how you market other vocational and technical qualifications?**

T levels will be new qualifications that will supersede qualifications that currently exist and are taught. We want the take up of T levels to grow over time. Here you should explain how delivering T levels will impact other qualifications you have on offer and whether you have any techniques or an approach to increase the take up of T levels.

**Next steps**

Once you have completed your survey and submitted it to us, we will consider your responses and the ESFA will write to you by 27 April confirming whether you will be invited to deliver T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year or not.

**Returning your survey**

Completed surveys should be submitted to us by **midday on 28 February 2018.**

If you miss this deadline or fail to provide the detail requested, your survey will not be considered and you will be excluded from delivering T levels in the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

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