

Thinking Ahead?

Teaching in the Further Education and Skills Sector

Produced by
Manchester Adult Education Service
Information and Guidance Team
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Some information has been extracted from National Careers Service website

Learner Services



Entry requirements

Employers set their own entry requirements. You may be able to get a job without a teaching qualification if your skills and experience are in demand. You'll then be expected to study while in the job.

Most people study before they get a teaching job. Teaching qualifications range from an introductory Level 3 Award in Education and Training to the Level 5 Diploma. If you have a degree, you can be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) alongside the Diploma.

To get onto a course, you'll usually need:

- at least a level 3 qualification in your subject
- a degree to teach an academic subject
- GCSEs (or equivalent) at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English and possibly Maths

Some colleges may let you take the equivalent level 2 qualifications in literacy and numeracy while doing the course. You may also take a level 2 qualification in ICT.

After the Level 5 diploma, you can gain the professional status of Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS). This is recognised as being equivalent to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) for teaching in schools as a qualified teacher.

You'll need a background check by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

FE Advice has more details of training, qualifications and funding.

Skills required

- the ability to engage and motivate students of all ages and abilities
- the ability to express yourself clearly in speech and writing
- creativity to design activities and materials
- organisational and planning skills

What you'll do

You may teach in further education, sixth-form or community colleges, adult education centres, prisons or the armed forces. You may also work for training providers.

You could teach:

- academic subjects, leading to qualifications like GCSEs, A levels and foundation degrees
- vocational courses for those learning trades or on apprenticeships
- vocational diplomas in colleges or schools
- basic skills like literacy, numeracy or English for speakers of other languages (ESOL)
- leisure and hobby courses, like photography

You may use a variety of teaching methods like seminars, tutorials and demonstrations.

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Your day-to-day tasks may include:

- interviewing potential students and carrying out diagnostic tests
- planning and preparing lessons and submitting plans to management
- working with exam boards in setting and marking essays and exams
- checking students' progress and acting as a personal tutor
- working with course teams to develop new courses and teaching materials
- carrying out admin tasks like keeping records and ordering resources
- taking part in meetings and events like open days
- attending training courses and keeping up with professional development
- supervising practical work within health and safety guidelines

Salary - These figures are a guide.

Starter: £24,000

Experienced: £36,000 to £40,000

Highly Experienced: £40,000 to £80,000 (leadership and management)

Part-time hourly rates vary between £15 and £35 an hour.

Working hours, patterns and environment

You'll usually work up to 37 hours a week, with teaching time of around 24 hours. You may be expected to work at least one evening a week, and sometimes on Saturday mornings.

You could teach full time, part time (day or evening) or on day-release courses.

You could work in a classroom, workshop or laboratory and may need to wear safety equipment.

You could travel to accompany students on field trips.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could become a senior lecturer or head of department, or move into management. You could also become an assessor or verifier. Another option is to become an examiner, or write textbooks or online resources.

Local training providers – The local providers below offer some or all of the relevant qualifications that may be required for teaching in the FE sector. (This is the latest information that has been provided by FE advice)

All the 'colleges' listed below, also offer GCSE's in Maths and English to adults

Ashton Sixth Form College: Tel: 0161 666 8215

<https://www.asfc.ac.uk/university-courses>

Aquinas College: Tel: 0161 483 3237 <http://www.aquinas.ac.uk/courses/pgce-14>

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Bolton College: Tel: 01204 482 956

<https://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/courses/adult-teaching/>

University of Bolton: Tel: 01204 900 600

<https://www.bolton.ac.uk/subject-areas/all-subjects/>

Bury College: Tel: 0161 280 8280

<https://www.burycollegeunicentre.co.uk/>

The Growth Company: Tel: 0161 228 1111

<http://www.gceducationandskills.ac.uk/all-courses/certificate-in-education-14plus>

The Manchester College: Tel: 0333 222 444

<https://www.tmc.ac.uk/subject-areas> - search under 'Teacher Education' as a subject

Oldham (University Campus): Tel: 0161 334 8800

<http://www.uco.oldham.ac.uk/courses/>

Salford City College: Tel: 0161 631 5000

<http://www.salfordcc.ac.uk/courses/he/education-early-years/>

Stockport College: Tel: 0300 300 0900

<http://www.stockport.ac.uk/departments/education/>

Tameside College: Tel: 0161 908 6789

https://www.tameside.ac.uk/pages/courses_search.aspx?a=20&x=d

Trafford College: Tel: 0161 886 7070

<http://www.trafford.ac.uk/courses/access-higher-education-courses/teaching>

Further Information

- FE Advice - Tel: 0300 303 1877 - www.feadvice.org.uk
- Prospects - <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/further-education-teacher>

You are advised to check material facts as although every effort has been made to ensure that information given is up to date we are aware that information is subject to change. The website links are used to provide further information and are not intended to signify that MAES endorses such websites and their content.