2017 PHYSICS TEACHER TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS

150 EXCEPTIONAL AWARDS

£30,000 TAX-FREE FUNDING

EVENTS AND CPD

Institute of Physics Teacher Training Scholarships supported by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers

IOP Institute of Physics
The Institute of Physics (IOP), with the support of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE), are recognising the value that engineers can bring to the classroom.

The IOP Teacher Training Scholarships scheme rewards outstanding people wishing to embark on physics initial teacher education in England. We are looking for impressive subject knowledge, as well as the drive and determination to become an exceptional teacher of physics.

We are awarding 150 scholarships for the 2017/18 academic year. Each scholarship package provides funding of £30,000 and support from the IOP. Scholars with degrees in mechanical engineering will get additional support from the IMechE.

The scholarship package

As an IOP scholar, you will benefit from:
- £30,000 tax-free funding
- IOP membership for your training year – and IMechE Associate membership (AMIMechE) for those with degrees in mechanical engineering
- An exclusive celebration event at the start of your training
- Opportunities to attend events and educational trips for IOP scholars throughout your training year
- The chance to contribute to physics-education policy

Are you eligible?

If you have the academic and personal qualities that will enable you to excel as a physics teacher, we encourage you to apply.

To apply you will need to:
- Have an excellent, proven (or predicted) academic record with a first or 2:1 degree, or hold a PhD or master’s degree or recognised equivalent. If you have a 2:2 degree we will consider your application if you can demonstrate significant relevant experience
- By September 2017, secure your training place on an eligible university-led or school-led (non-salaried) physics or physics-with-maths course in England for the 2017/18 academic year
- Qualify as a home student and meet the bursary eligibility criteria set out in the National College for Teaching and Leadership bursary guidance
- Have an excellent understanding of school-level physics
- Have an excellent ability to explain physics ideas at school level
- Have a proven interest in physics education
- Possess the qualities required to be an inspirational teacher of physics

More eligibility information can be found at iop.org/scholarships.
How to apply

Go to iop.org/scholarships to complete an online application form.

If your online application is shortlisted, you will be invited to attend an assessment day in London and will be told shortly afterwards if you are successful.

To manage demand there will be a series of application deadlines throughout the year. To find out the next deadline, visit iop.org/scholarships.

You can apply before or after you have secured your place on a teacher-training course. If you are taking a Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE) course, we recommend that you submit your application towards the end of this course.

If you have any questions about the application process, please get in touch by sending an email to teach@iop.org or by calling 020 7470 4959.

Winning a scholarship

Scholarships will be awarded to the top 150 applicants who impress us with their physics subject knowledge, enthusiasm and passion for teaching.

Places are limited. Not winning a scholarship does not mean you are unsuitable for teaching, and we urge you to continue to apply for physics teacher training. We offer support to all trainee teachers of physics through our Student Teacher Affiliation programme.

For further details, visit iop.org/student-teacher.

"The financial support of the scholarship has meant I can afford to change careers, and the intellectual support from the physics community has meant that I am not alone in discussing how best to teach physics."

Jon

"The IOP holds prestigious events where student teachers of physics can meet and discuss ideas in a relaxed and informal environment. They also provide workshops and educational day trips where scholars get the opportunity to engage with professionals in a unique environment."

Katherine

"The financial support is obviously great, but the scholarship has already given me more than that. I have met some wonderful people, and it is nice to feel like I am part of a larger physics network."

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FAQs

Which degree subjects are accepted?
Examples of relevant degree subjects include physics, engineering and astronomy. Additional benefits from the IMechE are only available to those who have completed a degree in mechanical engineering. To be given a place on a course, your degree must contain sufficient physics content, or you must have undertaken a subject-knowledge-enhancement (SKE) course in physics.

I have a PhD. Would I be suitable?
Yes. Applications are not restricted just to graduates of first degrees. We will be awarding scholarships to people from a variety of backgrounds and ages.

I graduated some time ago. Does this matter?
Not at all, your experiences since graduating could be very valuable to becoming a teacher.

What choices do I have for teacher training?
We can only award you a scholarship if you undertake your teacher training in England and do a university-led or school-led (non-salaried) training course.

Does the IOP arrange my teacher-training course?
No. The scholarship will be awarded independently of your teacher training. You can apply for a scholarship at any time in this process.

I’m currently doing an SKE course. Should I apply now or wait until I’ve completed it?
You can apply at any time, but we will be assessing your subject knowledge, so you may prefer to wait until you have completed your SKE course. You can always express your intention of applying by emailing us. Keep an eye on the deadline dates.

Can I apply if I want to do a part-time PGCE course?
Yes. The scholarship support that you receive will be the same, but your payments will be spread out throughout your training period.

Will I also get the government’s training bursary?
No. If you are awarded a scholarship it will be instead of the government’s training bursary.

More FAQs can be found online at iop.org/scholarships.

Useful websites

Our advice on becoming a physics teacher: iop.org/teach

The government’s teacher-training website: getintoteaching.education.gov.uk

Teacher-training course application website: ucas.com/teacher-training

Get in touch

iop.org/scholarships

teach@iop.org

020 7470 4959

@PhysicsNews

The IOP Teacher Training Scholarship scheme is run in partnership with the Department for Education.