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and social research
Institute of Education
University of London

FAQs: PGCE Literacy or ESOL and Diploma in Education: Mathematics (Numeracy)

Applicants to the Institute's PGCE Literacy or ESOL and Diploma in Education: Mathematics (Numeracy) will find these Frequently Asked Questions helpful when preparing and submitting an application.

Is there a deadline for applications for the PGCE Literacy or ESOL and Diploma in Education: Mathematics (Numeracy)?

There is currently no deadline, but we do receive a large number of applications and advise all applicants to apply as early as possible.

Do you accept online applications?

Yes, you should apply online via UKPASS at www.ukpass.ac.uk

Can I apply to more than one institution/more than one PGCE/Diploma (PC) course?

Yes, however you must notify us as soon as you have accepted a place on a course and wish to withdraw your application to the Institute.

Can I apply through the GTTR?

No, all applications for the PGCE Literacy or ESOL and Diploma (Numeracy) courses are made directly to the Institute of Education

What are the entry requirements for the course?

The course is open to both graduates and non-graduates. Applicants for year 1 must provide a suitable reference. Applicants for year 2 must currently be teaching a minimum of 3 hours per week (amounting to a minimum 150 hours over two years), at two curriculum levels, in an appropriate learning provider within the Post Compulsory sector. Year 2 applicants must be part qualified and will need to have the support of their employers, who will provide you with a subject specialist mentor.

How many days do I have to attend?

During the first year of the programme, you will attend one of our partner colleges, for one day per week, and will be on a placement for a further half day per week. Our partner colleges are: City and Islington (for Literacy or Numeracy), Hackney Community College (for Literacy) and Tower Hamlets College (for Literacy and ESOL). In the second year, you will attend at the Institute on a Thursday and will be expected to have acquired a minimum of three hours teaching per week.

What happens to my application once received, and when can I expect to hear an outcome?

Once received, your application will be recorded by our Recruitment and Admissions section. You will then be sent an email confirming it has been received. Your application and reference(s) will be forwarded on to the PGCE/Diploma (PC) Pathway Leader for shortlisting. If shortlisted, you will

be invited, in writing, to an interview. You can expect to hear the outcome of the interview within two weeks.

Can I teach in Secondary schools if I have a PGCE Literacy or ESOL or Diploma (Numeracy) qualification?

These courses do not qualify you to teach in Secondary schools as they do not confer QTS. You will be able to work towards QTLS (the required status for the Post Compulsory sector) through completing the PGCE/Diploma courses.

Do I have to have teaching experience to come on the course?

Applicants for year 2 must be experienced teachers who are already part qualified. For year 1 applicants, no prior teaching experience is necessary. However you will be expected to demonstrate an awareness of the sector at interview. Applicants without any teaching experience are advised to try to observe some lessons in a college in order to get an understanding and awareness of the sector.