

ECF Funding for schools - summary

Information put in April ECF Bulletin

ECF Funding Update

As we are coming to the end of the first cycle of ECTs who will be completing their Statutory Induction at the end of this term, we wanted to give reminders regarding the funding that schools are entitled to.

Please note that we will alert schools via email where Mentor engagement falls below the minimum engagement expectations which can impact on the school receiving the funding as detailed below.

Below is a summary from the DfE:

DfE funding for ECF-based training

We support schools with additional funding for ECF-based training. This is paid directly to schools and covers:

- 5% off timetable for early career teachers (ECTs) in year 2 of induction, for induction activities including ECF-based training and mentor sessions
- a dedicated mentor for each ECT, based on 20 hours of mentoring in year 2 of induction

If a school [uses a training provider](#), we also fund:

- training delivered to ECTs by the lead provider or delivery partner, paid directly to lead providers
- training delivered to mentors by the lead provider or delivery partner, paid directly to lead providers
- 36 hours of mentor time off timetable for training over 2 years, paid directly to schools

Year 1 funding for ECF-based training

Schools receive their core funding through the [dedicated schools grant \(DSG\)](#). We calculate this using the [national funding formula \(NFF\)](#). This funding is primarily based on pupil numbers and characteristics and is allocated by the local authority.

Funding is not 'earmarked' for statutory induction. It's up to headteachers to manage the funding they receive.

Headteachers should use core funding to cover the cost of 10% off timetable for ECTs in year 1 of induction.

Year 2 funding for ECF-based training

We pay this funding directly to schools in the summer of year 2. It covers the cost of giving each ECT:

- 5% off timetable in year 2 of induction
- 20 hours of mentor support in year 2 of induction

We calculate funding using the average hourly rate for mentors and early career teachers, split by region.

Year 2 funding	England (excluding the London Area)	Inner London Area	Outer London Area	Fringe Area
Rounded cost per ECT	£1,200	£1,500	£1,400	£1,300
Rounded cost per mentor	£900	£1,100	£1,000	£900
Total	£2,100	£2,600	£2,400	£2,200

We collect data on ECTs and mentors through the school workforce census to minimise the administrative burden on schools.

1. Introduction

Schools using one of the [DfE-funded training providers](#) to deliver early career framework (ECF) mentor training will receive backfill payments to cover 36 hours of mentor time off timetable for training per mentor, over 2 years. Year 1 and year 2 refer respectively to the first year and second year of induction for a mentor.

This funding will be made in arrears over 2 payments. The first payment will be made in the summer of year 1, following the start of ECF mentor training, covering 18 hours of mentor time off timetable for training. The second payment for the remaining 18 hours of mentor time off timetable will be made in the summer of year 2 where there has been sustained engagement with the mentor training.

2. Proportionate funding

Funding for eligible mentors working part-time, or for those who commence DfE-funded mentor training slightly later in the academic year, for example January, will be paid in full over 2 payments during the summer of year 1 and the summer of year 2. Funding may be used to support these eligible mentors beyond the 2 academic years. It is for the school to decide how this funding is managed.

Funding for eligible mentors who start their training late in the academic year and are not registered and validated on the DfE's [manage training for early career teachers service](#) by 31 May, will receive their payment the following summer.

3. Eligibility

All state-funded institutions where induction can be served and have a mentor signed up and completing DfE-funded [provider-led](#) ECF-based mentor training will be eligible for the funding.

4. Lead providers

You can view the list of national roll-out [ECF lead providers](#).

5. How DfE checks the eligibility of mentors

If a school uses a DfE-funded training provider to deliver ECF-based mentor training, we have to make sure that all mentors taking part are eligible for funding. We do this by checking mentors' details in the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) records.

When school induction tutors register mentors with DfE using DfE's [manage training for early career teachers service](#) we:

- send each mentor an email (so it's important the addresses provided are for active email accounts)
- ask them to sign into our service and tell us their teacher reference number (TRN) or National Insurance number, name and date of birth

We check that the mentor:

- does not have any prohibitions, sanctions or restrictions on their record
- has not previously received funding for ECF-based mentor training

The school induction tutor can sign in to the [manage training for early career teachers service](#) to see the status of these eligibility checks.

6. Funding

Eligible institutions will receive 2 payments to enable mentors to have time-off timetable to complete the 36 hours ECF-based mentor training. This will be paid over 2 payments in arrears.

The first payment will be in the summer of year 1. This payment will be based on evidence lead providers share with DfE that the mentor has commenced training. It will fund 18 hours of mentor time off timetable for training.

The second payment for the remaining 18 hours of mentor time off-timetable (36 hours in total) for mentor training will be made in the summer of year 2. This payment will be based on evidence that lead providers share with DfE that there has been sustained engagement with the mentor training.

DfE makes backfill payments directly to institutions or to local authorities to pay maintained schools.

The funding amount is calculated using the average hourly rate for mentors and will differ by region:

Mentor time off timetable for training	England (excluding the London area)	Inner London area	Outer London area	Fringe area
Payment 1- 18 hours (1 year of training)	£856.93	£1,048.80	£944.42	£882.53
Payment 2- 18 hours (1 year of training)	£856.93	£1,048.80	£944.42	£882.53
Total (36 hours)	£1,713.86	£2,097.60	£1,888.84	£1,765.05

We collect data on mentors through DfE's [manage training for early career teachers service](#) to minimise the administrative burden on schools.

7. Payments

The two payments will be made in arrears in the summer of year 1, and the summer of year 2. These payments are based on evidence that lead providers share with DfE and eligible mentors recorded through DfE's [manage training for early career teachers service](#), therefore it's essential that your school submits accurate and up to date information about early career teachers (ECTs) to the service to ensure payments are received.