

STUDENT MONEY ADVICE AND RIGHTS TEAM (SMART)

ITT Subject Knowledge Enhancement (SKE) Training Bursary 2023/24

To be eligible for an SKE bursary, trainees must hold at least a 2:2 UK Honours degree and must have firmly accepted a conditional offer of a place on an eligible ITT course which leads to an award of QTS via Apply (which may be a deferred ITT place) or received a recommendation of SKE via an HPITT provider for September 2024. The completion of an SKE course must be a condition/recommendation of the ITT offer.

Home Fee status applicants must meet the eligibility criteria including residency and immigration status, as set out in the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2011, part two (eligibility). EU nationals, resident in the UK before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, with pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme, will continue to be eligible for home fee status and student financial support on a similar basis to domestic students, subject to meeting usual residency requirements.

From 2023/24 overseas applicants on a tuition-fee based Physics or MFL (German, French and Spanish) teacher training courses in England may be eligible for SKE regardless of if they are entitled to support under student finance criteria. Overseas applicants will not be entitled to an SKE bursary for any other subject unless they are entitled to student finance.

Trainees who have obtained a direct matching degree in their chosen ITT subject in the previous five years are not eligible for SKE funding. For example, a participant with a mathematics degree awarded in the previous 5 years who have applied to study ITT Mathematics would not be eligible for SKE funding.

SKE funding is available for courses of 8 - 28 weeks in the following subjects: biology, chemistry, computing, design and technology, English, languages, mathematics, physics, primary mathematics. SKE funding is also available for courses of 8 weeks in religious education. Applicants who need to complete a dual language SKE should take a short 8-week course in the main language, and a longer, up to 28 weeks in the other language. Completion of a dual SKE course must be a condition of offer to be eligible for a dual language SKE course and bursary.

The SKE training bursary is £175 per week and will reflect the full-time equivalent (FTE) duration of the SKE study completed and not the overall actual duration. FTE study per week is 25 hours. Therefore, completed hours of study will be checked to ensure correct amount of bursary is paid. Payments will be made in equal monthly instalments, on the 10th of the month, 1 month in arrears, provided the eligibility criteria is met throughout the programme.

Incomplete study / Withdrawals: It is the trainee's responsibility to email ittfunding@uel.ac.uk as soon as they are unable to attend / continue with their SKE programme to prevent overpayments.

Where a trainee starts but later withdraws from their SKE course, they will be eligible to receive the bursary for the portion of the SKE programme they have completed only. e.g. if a trainee completes 2 weeks with 35 hrs of SKE before withdrawing, they are only entitled to receive £175 for the 25hrs that is completed as bursary is not pro rata for partial week or incomplete FTE hours of study.

As the bursary payments are made monthly, in the event of an overpayment, any SKE bursary overpayments for non-completion of weekly FTE required study will be recovered.

Bank Details: It is the trainee's responsibility to ensure that correct bank details are provided.

If awarded, SKE bursary payments will be paid into the bank details provided on UEL Direct account. Trainees' bank accounts must be in the name of the trainee undertaking the SKE course. Payments will not be made to third parties. To securely upload bank details on UEL Direct:

Step 1: Login to My Record ([UEL direct](#)). Click on My Payments

Step 2: Click on 'Bank Details – Add, Amend & View'

Step 3: Follow instructions to submit your bank details

Step 4: Once submitted you will receive an email that you must read and click on the 'Click Confirm' link (if this link is not received please contact the hub on 020 8223 4444 at once to inform and ask for the link to be sent to you manually by financial systems teams colleagues)

Step 5: Confirm the bank details you have submitted are correct. Finally, an email confirming successful completion will be sent, until this email is received your bank details are not verified.