

Teachers' Student Loan Reimbursement

The Teachers' Student Loan Reimbursement Scheme will enable Bracknell Forest teachers of eligible secondary subjects to apply for a reimbursement of their student loan payments made in the first 10 years of their careers.

Bracknell Forest is one of only 25 authorities in this pilot scheme nationally and the only authority covered in the Thames Valley.

In order to be eligible to apply for a student loan reimbursement, teachers must:

- Have been awarded Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) in one of the eligible academic years (2013 – 2019)
- Teach an eligible subject
- Be employed as a qualified teacher in a Bracknell Forest school in either a maintained secondary school, maintained special school or a secondary phase academy/free school

Teachers will be eligible for reimbursements for the 10 academic years following the year in which they were awarded QTS. For example, teachers who qualified in 2017 to 2018 can claim for the years 2018 to 2019 up to 2027 to 2028 inclusive.

Teachers will only be eligible for reimbursement of the payments made to the Student Loans Company whilst in employment in a participating school as a teacher for at least 50% of contracted hours in one of the eligible subjects:

- **Languages**
- **Physics**
- **Chemistry**
- **Biology**
- **Computer Science**

This scheme applies to new and existing teachers that meet the eligibility criteria.

You must have confirmation:

- of employment for the last academic year from your employer
- that you are still in employment as a teacher when you apply

The reimbursement payments are:

- not part of a teacher's pay
- subject to income tax and National Insurance (NI) but the NCTL will pay this cost; the teacher will not need to pay additional tax and NI contributions on these payments
- made by bank transfer to the teacher's bank account.

Teachers must apply for a retrospective reimbursement; it is not automatic.

Claim process - your application will only be processed if you:

- complete and return the application form within the specified time, stating the amount repaid to the Student Loans Company
- get your employer to countersign your application form
- send all documents with your application, including proof of payment in the form of payslips

Applications can be made from the first Monday of September, for a period of 6 weeks, to claim reimbursement for the payments made to the Student Loans Company in the previous academic year.

Full DfE guidance is available via the link below, where teachers can also register for reminders to be sent to them when the application window opens.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/teachers-student-loan-reimbursement-guidance-for-teachers-and-schools>