



## Further Education Initial Teacher Education (FE ITE) – Course naming

1. The Department for Education has received queries from higher education providers regarding the eligibility of FE ITE courses for student support and other public funding (including bursaries) in AY24/25, related explicitly to the way in which FE ITE courses are titled. This note provides further guidance for providers on course naming and eligibility for student support.
2. From AY24/25, only FE ITE courses that are included on the [list published by the Secretary of State](#) are eligible for student support funding. For a course to be eligible for an FE ITE bursary, it must meet the [published eligibility criteria](#), including being designated for student support (and therefore on the published list).
3. The list published in January 2024 confirms that **only courses delivered or validated by English higher education providers with degree awarding powers are eligible for funding**. Qualifications can be funded at Levels 5, 6 and 7. FE ITE qualifications regulated by Ofqual are not eligible for student support funding in AY24/25.
4. We know that, historically, higher education providers have used a wide range of different titles for their FE ITE courses. We would like to see improved consistency and coherence in the system, providing greater clarity for students when selecting an appropriate course. **We would therefore strongly encourage providers to align the titles of their ITE courses at Level 5, 6 and 7 with those included in the Secretary of State’s approved list.**
5. We recognise, however, that changes to course titles can have a long lead-in time, depending on an individual provider’s administrative processes. **A disparity in course title does not, therefore, automatically mean that a course is not fundable.** If a higher education provider with degree awarding powers offers a Level 5, 6 or 7 FE ITE course that is equivalent to a CertEd, PgCE, or PGCE/PGDE and meets the full requirements of the Learning and Skills Teacher occupational standard, then that course is eligible for student support funding in AY24/25. Such a course would also be eligible for FE ITE bursaries. **Use of the terminology “Diploma in Teaching” in the title of a course offered by a higher education provider with degree awarding powers does not, of itself, make that course ineligible for funding in AY24/25.**
6. The Student Loans Company (SLC) will update guidance for AY24/25, enabling providers to determine how their course(s) should be identified on the Course Management System.
7. Queries relating to FE ITE policy, including funding eligibility, should be addressed to [FE.ITE@education.gov.uk](mailto:FE.ITE@education.gov.uk). Queries relating to FE ITE bursaries only should continue to be addressed to [FE.WORKFORCEINCENTIVES@education.gov.uk](mailto:FE.WORKFORCEINCENTIVES@education.gov.uk)