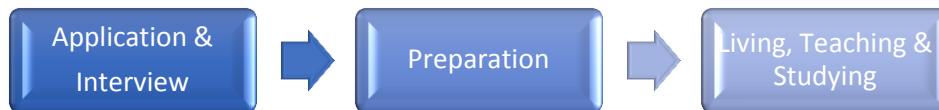


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## Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in the UK

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### 1. Application & Interview

#### Getting started

- you need to decide what kind of PGCE scheme you would like to do. There are 2 different ways of getting into teaching in the UK

#### 1. school- led training

#### 2. University-led training

- both courses will give you a PGCE degree. They simply differ on whether you want to be working more academically or directly for a school, where you would be for an entire school year.
- you need to decide on whether you would like to go on a salaried route or check out if you can receive a bursary (student funding which generally does not have to be paid back)
- Especially students who decide to do their PGCE degree in science or Geography are eligible for bursaries. Find out more here → <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/funding-and-salary/overview>
- For more information visit the homepage of *The Department for Education*:
- → <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

#### Application

- Once you have decided which route to go for, you need to apply to teacher training through UCAS  
→ <https://www.ucas.com/ucas-teacher-training-apply-1>
  - **Applying Dates:** Normally beginning of October to mid December
- **for the application, you need:**

- depending on what route you have decided to do, you will have to make 3 choices of Universities or Schools you want to apply to
- personal statement → guidelines can be found on UCAS homepage
- personal information like nationality, CV details, Passport details etc.
- two letters of reference from lecturers or former employers (nobody who is related to you)
- your A-Levels report and Degree Certificate from University (second can be handed in after applying) → these must be recognised by the British government, which means you will need a *Letter of Comparability*.  
UK NARIC issues these → <https://www.naric.org.uk/naric/> (this can take up to 4 working-weeks and costs about £ 100)
- you will have to pay for your application with a VISA CARD

## Interview

- in December/January Schools and Universities will be starting to invite you for interviews, which you will have to attend (you will be contacted via Email or through UCAS → so always check your account)
- **in University:** you will be asked about why you want to go into teaching, what makes a teacher professional and perhaps you might have to give a little talk about a topic
- **in School:** you will normally be interviewed by the head of the department and you will be asked to give a lesson
  
- after the interview phase, you will have to make up your mind about which potential offers you might want to accept (there will be deadlines on the system)

## 2. Preparation

- offers will mostly be conditional, so you will need to fulfil certain requirements to be able to accept an offer
  - every person who teaches in the UK must pass the Professional Skills Test in Numeracy and Literacy. These tests examine your general competencies in maths and literature. You can practice and register here (this test can only be taken in the UK, the test centre in Frankfurt has closed) → <http://sta.education.gov.uk>
  - You will also have to complete a DBS (Criminal Record Check) check a Health Clearance → these documents are usually provided by the universities
  - Nevertheless, you will also be asked to provide an overseas DBS → so go to your local citizen centre and apply for a "Führungszeugnis"

## 3. Living, Teaching and Studying

- Finding accommodation in the UK: Gumtree, Rightmove, Zoopla, SpareRoom and many more websites will help you find an own property or a house-/flatshare
- try to visit the school you will be working in (if school-direct route) beforehand → get to know the school, staff and most importantly the pupils