

Frequently Asked Questions

What is General Professional Recognition Learning and Skills (GPRLS)?

It is a scheme designed to enable competent and experienced teachers to be Recognised as having professional standing according to the requirements established by the FE Teachers' Qualifications (England) Regulations 2007. It is a process designed for those where undertaking a generic initial teacher training qualification would be inappropriate.

Who can apply for GPRLS B4?

GPRLS B4 is designed for teachers, tutors, and trainers in the learning and skills sector who are competent and experienced, but unqualified and have been teaching within the sector:

- in an FE incorporated setting before 1st September 2001
- Or,
- outside of FE colleges, before 1st September 2007

What is the position for teachers who entered the FE profession prior to the 2007 regulations?

The regulations are not intended to produce retrospective requirements for teachers already in the sector. Nonetheless, the overall strategy is to achieve a fully qualified workforce by 2010.

How does the GPRLS B4 route differ from the other GPRLS routes available?

The B4 route has been carefully designed to take into account the experience gained by long standing members of the workforce and so is open to all teachers, trainers and tutors (in the full and associate role) who are not required to comply with the Further Education Teachers' Qualifications (England) Regulations 2001/2007.

Do I have to do anything before I apply?

You should register with the Institute for Learning (IfL) as your IfL membership number is used as your personal identification number and is needed on each page of the application form.

What does the B4 application involve?

You will need to supply information about your career history, your continuing professional development in teaching and learning, and complete two written tasks drawing on your pedagogic and specialist subject skills, knowledge, and experience. You will also be asked to provide a full CV and current job description, two teaching observation reports, and two signed references on headed paper in support of your application. Other evidence such as Retention, Achievement, and Success data may also be required.

The eligibility requirement for GPRLSB4 states that applicants must be able to demonstrate 'currency of practice in the previous 24 months'. What does this mean?

It means that in order to be eligible to apply for GPRLSB4, you must have been in the full or associate teacher role with learners in the previous 24 months, although not necessarily continuously.

Can I apply in either the full or the associate teaching role?

Yes. Applications for GPRLS B4 are accepted from teachers who are in either the full or the associate role.

What is the difference between Full and Associate teachers?

The definitions apply to teachers who are working on a full time, part time, fractional, fixed term, temporary or agency basis. Further information can be found in the Lifelong Learning UK publication *Guidance for awarding institutions on teacher roles and initial teaching qualifications*. If you would like to know more about this, please see the link at the end of this document.

Am I eligible for the GPRLS B4 route to Recognition?

If you have read all the documents and are still not sure whether you are eligible for the scheme, please contact, via phone or e-mail, Lifelong Learning UK's Information and Advice Service on 0207 936 5798 or advice@lluk.org.

What is the deadline for submissions?

Currently, the GPRLS scheme has no submission deadline; however, it is an aspiration of DIUS that the profession will be fully qualified by 2010.

How quickly will I get my results?

Standards Verification UK will aim to notify you of your outcome within 12 weeks of receiving your application.

Will I receive a certificate?

No, you will receive a letter notifying you of the outcome of your submission together with a supporting letter from the Department of Innovation Universities and Skills (DIUS).

What happens if my GPRLS application is unsuccessful?

Unsuccessful applicants receive a written statement identifying the criteria that have not been met and/or the activity that has not been successfully completed. An application can be resubmitted once. An appeals process can be used in the case of definitive refusal.

How do I convert holding Professional Recognition Learning and Skills (GPRLS) into gaining Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) or Associate Teacher Learning and Skills (ATLS)?

Achieving General Professional Recognition places an individual in the same position as a colleague who has an accepted teaching qualification. They are able to begin a period of professional formation and apply to the Institute for Learning for either QTLS or ATLS, the new licenses to practise.

General Professional Recognition Learning and Skills B4 (England)



Skills for Learning Professionals

For general advice and assistance, please contact:

LLUK Information & Advice Service

Tel: 020 7936 5798

E-mail: advice@lluk.org

For information regarding the processing of an application, please contact:

General Professional Recognition Learning and Skills (England) B4

Tel: 0113 241 0435

E-mail: recognition@svuk.eu

Useful e-mails:

Institute for Learning

enquiries@ifl.ac.uk

Tariff of Initial Teacher Training Qualifications

tariff@svuk.eu

Useful websites:

Institute for Learning

www.ifl.ac.uk

Department of Innovation, Universities & Skills

<http://www.dius.gov.uk>

Office of Public Sector Information

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk>

Lifelong Learning UK

www.lluk.org

Standards Verification UK

www.svuk.eu

- GPRLS

www.svuk.eu/2927.htm

- Tariff

www.svuk.eu/2924.htm

Useful documents:

A guide to the...

- Further Education Teachers' Qualifications (England) Regulations 2007 No. 2264
<http://www.dius.gov.uk/publications/guide2007no2264.pdf>
- Further Education Teachers' Continuing Professional Development and Registration (England) Regulations 2007 No. 2116
<http://www.dius.gov.uk/publications/guide2007no2116.pdf>

Regulations...

- Further Education Teachers' Qualifications (England) Regulations 2007
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi_20072264_en_1
- Further Education Teachers' Continuing Professional Development and Registration (England) Regulations 2007
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi_20072116_en_1
- Further Education Teachers' Qualifications (England) Regulations 2001
<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2001/20011209.htm>

Documents...

- New overarching professional standards for teachers, tutors and trainers in the lifelong learning sector
http://www.lluk.org/documents/professional_standards_for_itts_020107.pdf
- Guidance for awarding institutions on teacher roles and initial teaching qualifications
http://www.lluk.org/documents/ai_guidance_aug07_version3.pdf
- Professional Formation
<http://www.ifl.ac.uk/services/docs/1257/ProfessionalFormationOverview.pdf>