

STEM Teacher Bursary

Report of the review of the 2020/21 scheme

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1. Introduction

This report was collated by Skills Development Scotland and provides information on the applications received for the 2020/21 STEM Bursary, including a summary of the 2018/19 and 2019/20 STEM Bursary application process and subsequent destinations of these successful bursary recipients.

The STEM Bursary Scheme opened in April 2018/19 for career changers wishing to undertake a one-year Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) Initial Teacher Education (ITE) course in Scotland in 2018/19, leading to the award of registered teacher status in the hardest to fill STEM subjects.

Developed in response to the STEM Education and Training Strategy (Oct. 2017), the bursary initially covered four STEM subjects, Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics and Technical Education in seven ITE institutions (University of Aberdeen, University of Dundee, University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, University of Strathclyde, University of the Highlands & Islands and University of the West of Scotland). Chemistry was added with the initial 2018/19 STEM Bursary as an eligible subject. The range of STEM subjects was extended further in 2019/20 to include Home Economics, and two new ITE institutions joined the scheme, Queen Margaret University and Edinburgh Napier University.

£2,000,000 to cover 100 bursaries was allocated to the scheme in both 2018/19 and 2019/20. Eligible students on the PGDE course receive a £20,000 bursary.

In 2018/19 and 2019/20, eligible ITE courses also included the PGDE with Masters at University of Strathclyde. Students undertaking the PGDE with Masters received a £14,000 bursary for the 7 months of the course.

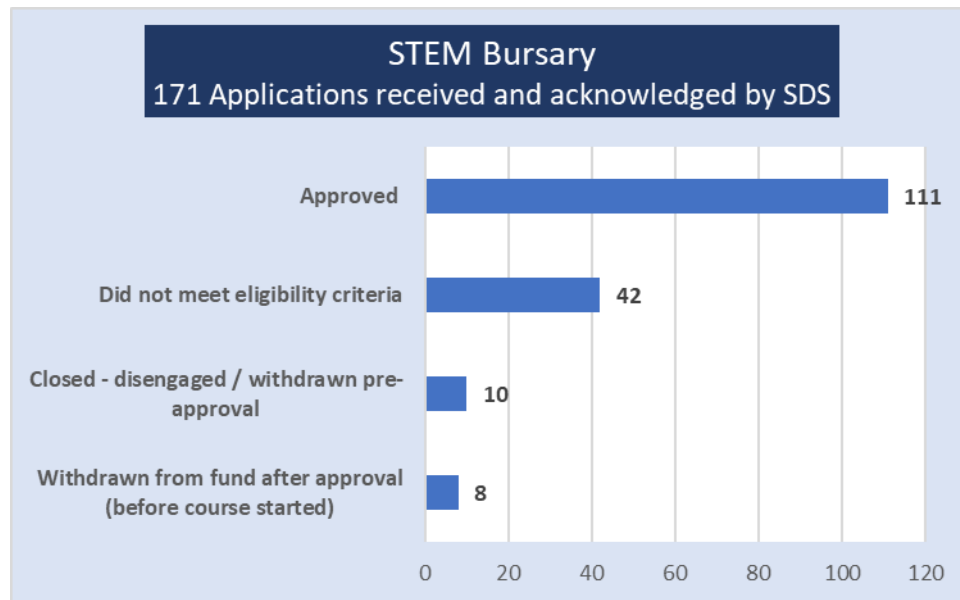
The Scheme opened for the 2020/21 PGDE intake in March 2020 with the Scottish Government allocating £3,000,000 to cover 150 bursaries.

A total of 150 bursary awards were made during the 2020/21 intake.

An external STEM Bursary Advisory Group was established with representation from Scottish Government, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Council of Deans of Education, ITE Universities, Local Authorities and Cosla. The role of the group was to review the implementation of the bursary scheme in 2019/20 and provide advice and guidance on changes to the scheme for 2020/21.

1.1 Summary of Previous Year's STEM Bursary Applications

This section summarises overall bursary applications and successful bursary awards for the 2019/20 intake.



111 bursaries were approved. At the end of the 2019/20 academic session, the outcomes of the students' courses of study were as follows:

Successful Completion	-	87
Did not complete course	-	12
Due to complete course in 2020/21 academic year	-	12

In the 2018/19 academic session, 107 bursaries were approved with 95 successfully completing.

1.2 Updates to STEM Bursary for 2020/21 Intake

The following changes were made to the eligibility criteria for 2020/21:

- Applicants who, since 30th September 2017, had undertaken a short full time top up course to meet the academic entry requirements of their chosen PGDE ITE Course including, but not limited to, Higher English and National 5 Mathematics may be deemed eligible
- The employment criteria requirement for applicants to demonstrate they have worked for 150 hours per relevant year was removed
- Applicants who could evidence they had been in receipt of Carer's Allowance for 36 of the last 60 months would be deemed to have met the employment criteria

2. Eligibility Criteria for 2020/21 Intake

1. Applicants must hold an offer of a place on a PGDE ITE teacher education course in Maths, Computing Science, Technical Education, Physics, Chemistry or Home Economics from one of the Universities.

2. Applicants must hold either: -

- a 2:1 honours degree (or above) the content of which would make them suitable to teach Maths, Computing Science, Technical Education, Physics, Chemistry or Home Economics
- a degree that meets the minimum ITE entry requirement and a Masters at SCQF Level 11 that is relevant to their chosen teaching subject of Maths, Computing Science, Technical Education, Physics, Chemistry or Home Economics.
- Normal entry requirements for PGDE ITE courses also apply, including a requirement to have Higher English (or equivalent) and National 5 Credit level Maths (or equivalent).

3. Applicants will be expected to have been in employment for at least 36 out of the last 60 months (including career breaks). Details of the types of self-employment evidence we are able to accept are in the Terms and Conditions.

- Applicants who can evidence they have been in receipt of Carer's Allowance for 36 of the last 60 months will be deemed to have met the employment criteria.
- Applicants who hold refugee status or other humanitarian protection status in the UK, and other applicants covered by Clause 1.3 of the Terms and Conditions, are exempt from this requirement.

4. At the point of application, applicants (excluding those who have been undertaking a remunerated PhD that includes teaching experience) need to be at least 36 months away from full-time education.

- Evidence of graduation on or before 30th September 2017 will be required.

- Further and at the discretion of SDS, any applicant who has since 30th September 2017 undertaken a short full time top up course to meet the academic entry requirements of their chosen PGDE ITE Course including, but not limited to, Higher English and National 5 Mathematics may be deemed eligible.

5. To qualify for the bursary, applicants will need to satisfy the following SAAS residency requirements:

- Applicants must be ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man for the three years immediately before 1st August 2020.
- If the applicant falls short of being ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for the three-year qualifying period, even by one day, the applicant will not be eligible.
- Applicant must be ordinarily resident in Scotland on 1st August 2020.
- Applicant will not be regarded as being ordinarily resident in Scotland if their main purpose in coming here is to receive full-time education and that the applicant would have otherwise been living elsewhere.
- If the applicant is not a UK or other EU national, the applicant must have 'settled status' in the UK (as set out in the Immigration Act 1971) on 1st August 2020.

6. Those already in receipt of any other subsidised ITE provision where salaries or allowances are already in place will not be eligible. Examples of such programmes include (but are not limited to) the Salaried Distance Learning & Learn to Teach programmes, the Supported Induction Route at University of Dundee and PGDE Internships at University of Aberdeen.

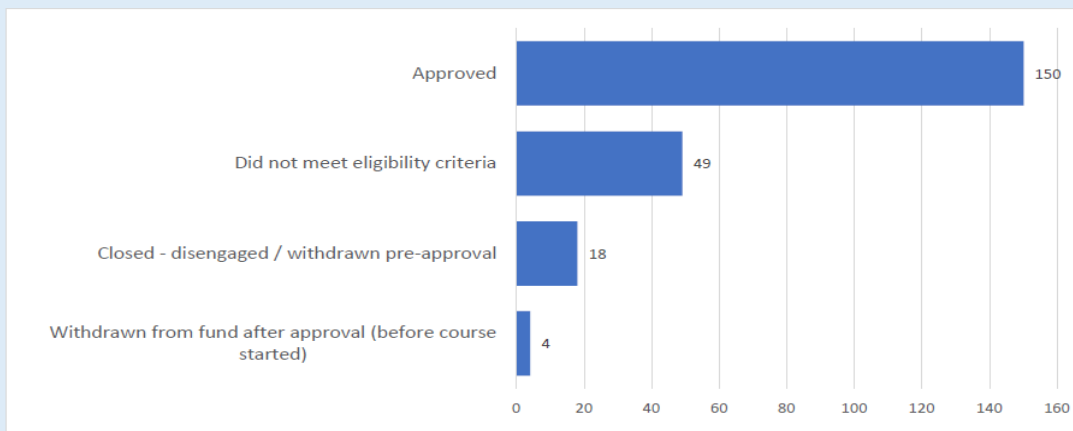
3. Summary of 2020/21 Applications and Awards

This section summarises overall bursary applications and successful bursary awards as well as breakdown of bursary recipients by ITE institution and subject.

3.1 Total applications and reasons for non-award of bursaries

In total, 221 applications to the Bursary Scheme were received via on-line application at www.stembursaryscotland.co.uk, with 150 of these approved as meeting the eligibility criteria and accepting the bursary award. This chart summarises the reasons for the 71 unsuccessful applications.

STEM Bursary 221 Applications received and acknowledged by SDS



Source: Skills Development Scotland

3.2 Successful Bursary Recipients by ITE Institution

	University	Total offers
1	Edinburgh Napier University	10
2	Queen Margaret University	7
3	University of Aberdeen	17
4	University of Dundee	4
5	University of Edinburgh	23
6	University of Glasgow	19
7	University of Strathclyde	54
8	University of the Highlands and Islands	11
9	University of the West of Scotland	5
	Grand Summary:	150

Source: Skills Development Scotland

3.3 Recipients by ITE Subject and Insitution

The distribution of bursary recipients and ITE subject and university is shown below.

University	ITE Subject								
	Chemistry	Dual Chemistry/ Biology	Computing	Maths	Dual Maths/ Physics	Physics	Dual Chemistry/ Physics	Technical Education	Home Economics
Aberdeen University	5	1		6		3	1		1
Dundee University	1				2				1
Edinburgh University	6	2		5	1	3		6	
Glasgow University	5		5	3		6			
Strathclyde University	8		5	10	1	7		15	8
University of Highlands & Islands	2		2	1	1	1		3	1
University of West of Scotland	2			2		1			
Queen Margaret University									7
Edinburgh Napier University	2			4		4			
Total Recipients by Subject	31	3	12	31	5	25	1	24	18

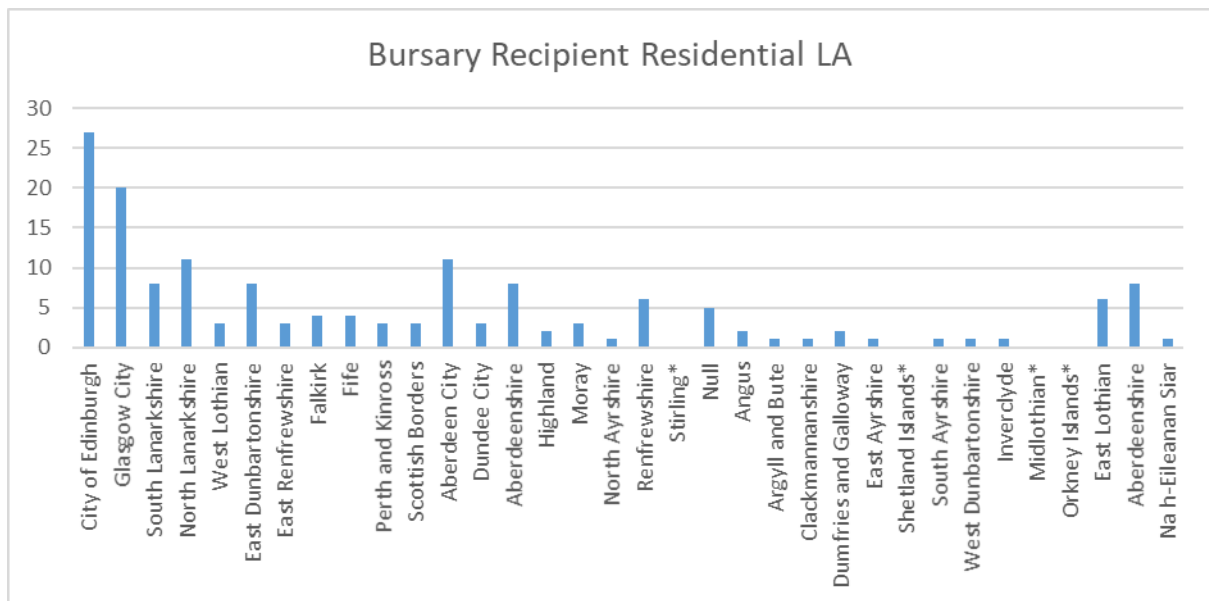
Source: Skills Development Scotland

4. Profile of Bursary Recipients

This section looks at bursary recipients by their residence at time of application, preferred destination(s) for future employment, gender, ethnicity, disability and age.

4.1 Bursary Recipients by Local Authority

The distribution of bursary recipients by the local authority area in which they resided at the time of application.



* No Bursary Recipients 2020/21

Source: Skills Development Scotland

4.2 Bursary Recipients by Scottish Parliamentary Constituency

The number of bursary recipients by the Scottish parliamentary constituency in which they were resident at the time of their application.

Scottish Parliamentary Constituency	Bursary Recipients
Clydebank and Milngavie	2
Clydesdale	2
Glasgow Kelvin	5
Linlithgow	2
Edinburgh Central	5
Uddingston and Bellshill	2
Eastwood	3
Edinburgh Northern and Leith	6
Edinburgh Southern	3
Falkirk East	3
Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse	0
Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale	2
Perthshire South and Kinross-shire	1
Renfrewshire South	1
Aberdeen South and North Kincardine	2
Coatbridge and Chryston	5
Cumbernauld and Kilsyth	0
Dundee City East	1
East Kilbride	1
Falkirk West	1
Glasgow Anniesland	4
Glasgow Southside	3
Kirkcaldy	1
Moray	3
Stirling	0
Null	5
Aberdeen Central	8
Aberdeenshire East	3
Airdrie and Shotts	1
Almond Valley	1
Angus North and Mearns	1
Ayr	1
Banffshire and Buchan Coast	0
Caithness, Sutherland and Ross	1
Clackmannanshire and Dunblane	1
Cowdenbeath	1
Cunninghame North	1
Cunninghame South	0
Dumbarton	0
Dundee City West	2
Edinburgh Eastern	4
Edinburgh Pentlands	5
Edinburgh Western	4
Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire	1
Galloway and West Dumfries	1
Glasgow Cathcart	2
Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn	3
Glasgow Pollock	1
Kilmarnock and Irvine Valley	1
Motherwell and Wishaw	3
North East Fife	0

Paisley	1
Perthshire North	2
Rutherglen	5
Shetland Islands	0
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch	1
Strathkelvin and Bearsden	7
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley	0
Dumfriesshire	1
Dunfermline	1
Greenock and Inverclyde	1
Mid Fife and Glenrothes	1
Midlothian North and Musselburgh	2
Orkney Islands	0
Glasgow Shettleston	1
Inverness and Nairn	0
Renfrewshire North and West	4
Aberdeen Donside	1
Aberdeenshire West	5
Angus South	1
Argyll and Bute	1
East Lothian	4
Glasgow Provan	1
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	1

Source: Skills Development Scotland

4.3 Preferred Destination for Future Employment by Local Authority

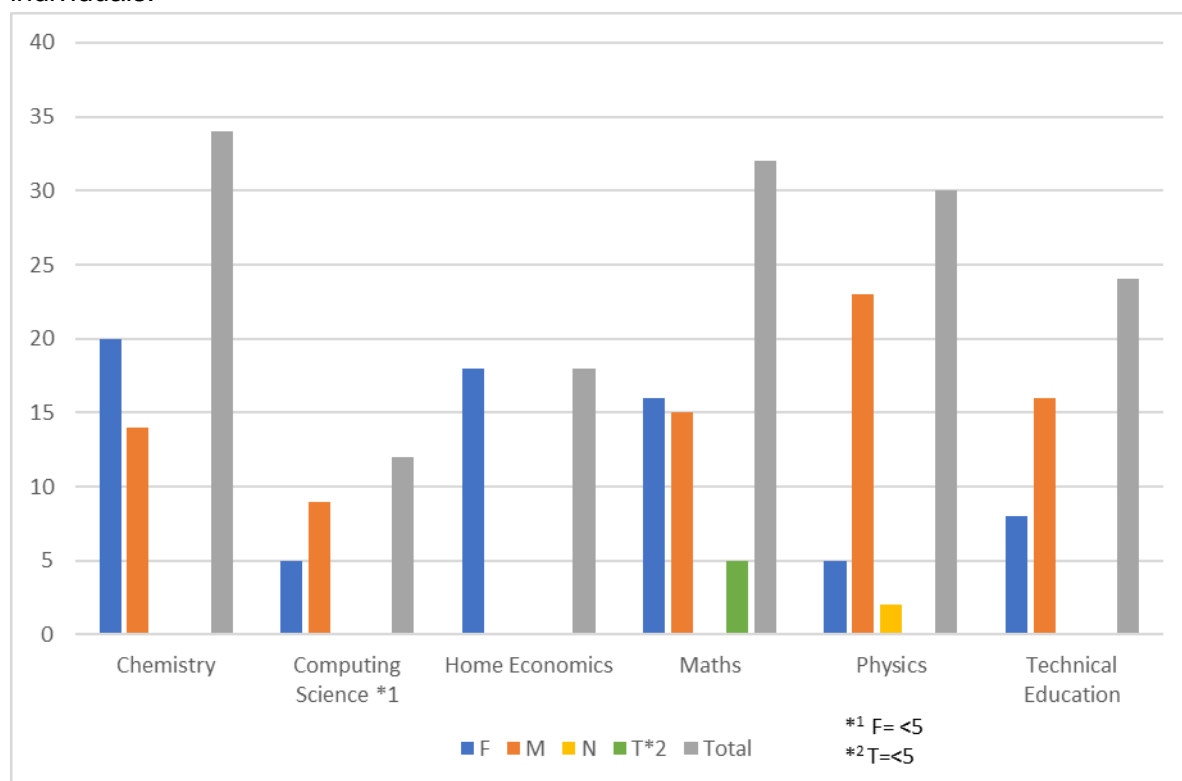
During the application process applicants were asked, on a voluntary basis, to indicate which local authority area(s) they would consider seeking employment in on successful completion of their ITE course.

Local Authority	Total Selected
Glasgow City	76
North Lanarkshire	55
City of Edinburgh	58
South Lanarkshire	52
West Lothian	51
East Renfrewshire	48
Falkirk	41
Stirling	41
East Dunbartonshire	40
Midlothian	51
Fife	40
North Ayrshire	30
West Dunbartonshire	35
East Lothian	49
Renfrewshire	40
Perth and Kinross	31
East Ayrshire	27
Inverclyde	25
Clackmannanshire	23
Scottish Borders	27
South Ayrshire	26
Dundee City	26
Aberdeen City	31
Aberdeenshire	29
Angus	21
Dumfries and Galloway	15
Argyll and Bute	17
Highland	22
Moray	16
Na h-Eileanan an Iar	13
Orkney Islands	12
Shetland Islands	11

Source: Skills Development Scotland

4.4 ITE Subject Choice by Gender

The chart and table below summarise ITE subject choice by gender. Any subject category with fewer than 5 responses is shown as * <5 to avoid possible identification of individuals.



F= Female, M= Male, N=Prefer not to say, T= Transgender

Source: Skills Development Scotland

Teaching Field	F	M	N	T	Total
Chemistry	20	14	0	0	34
Computing Science	<5	9	0	0	10-14
Home Economics	18	0	0	0	18
Maths	16	15	0	<5	32-36
Physics	5	23	2	0	30
Technical Education	8	16	0	0	24

Source: Skills Development Scotland

Note the nine bursary recipients undertaking dual teaching qualifications have been included within their first subject choice on which the bursary was awarded.

4.5 Bursary Recipients by Ethnicity

This shows the breakdown of bursary recipients by their stated ethnicity. Any ethnic category with fewer than 5 responses is shown as * to avoid possible identification of individuals.

Ethnicity	% of recipients
White (Scottish)	71%
White (Other)	7%
White (English)	7%
Asian (Pakistani)	*
Asian (Chinese)	*
Asian (Indian)	*
Black (African)	*
Declined to Answer	*
Mixed Background	*
Other Ethnic Background	*
White (Northern Irish)	*
White (Welsh)	*

Source: Skills Development Scotland

To provide more clarity on the breakdown of recipients from different ethnic groups the responses were

- White (Scottish, English, Northern Irish, Welsh, Other) 87%
- Black, Asian and Mixed (Indian, Pakistani, Chinese, African, other ethnic background) 9.5%
- Declined to answer 3.5%

4.6 Bursary recipients by Disability

The breakdown of bursary recipients by stated disability and gender.

	Disability ↓	Total
1	No	136
2	Prefer not to say	6
3	Yes	8
	Grand Summary:	150

Source: Skills Development Scotland

4.7 Bursary Recipients by Age

The age profile of bursary recipients.

	Age Band ↓	
1	20 to 24	1
2	25 to 40	107
3	41 to 50	31
4	51 to 54	6
5	55 to 64	5
	Grand Summary:	150

Source: Skills Development Scotland

5. Considerations in preparation for Year 4

- Amend academic entry requirements including whether to consider professional qualifications or PgDip/ PgCerts
- Consideration for applicants who do not meet academic entry requirements at the time of applying for the bursary but have been given provisional place on ITE course
- Review the wording of residency criteria in our Terms and Conditions to make it clearer for applicants
- To consider what employment evidence is required to demonstrate eligibility
- When to set closing date