Postgraduate Certificate In Education (PGCE)

Postgraduate Teacher Training in the UK 2014

University College Cork

Website: www.train2teach.org

How long does a PGCE take?

• One year full-time: September – June
• Up to two years part-time
• Alternatively you can follow the “The Schools Direct” Programme

You will need:

• Good honours degree (minimum 2:2)
• GCSE English Language and Mathematics at Grade C or equivalent e.g. Leaving Cert Grade C (Ordinary Level)
• For Primary Teaching a Science Subject is also required
• Demonstrate an interest in teaching
• Competence in ICT
• School Experience - usually 10 days experience (minimum). Some universities will require you to undertake school experience in a UK school.

•QTS Skills Tests

• Key skills which test applicant’s core skills - competency in numeracy and literacy.
• Usually applicants are required to pass tests prior to Interview.
• Tests are computerized. You will know the result straight away.
• Edge Hill University has its own test centre on site – one of only 2 universities in the UK to have this facility.

SKILLS TEST

• Tests can be practiced online at home
• Two chances to pass
• Failure twice = no re sit permitted for 2 calendar years
• Cost - 1st Test Free, Subsequent tests = £19.25
• Tests are computerized, 150 centers across UK
• There are currently 6 test centers in Northern Ireland
• www.pearsonvue.com/ta/locate/
• Tests can be practiced online at home as many times as required www.education.gov.uk/teachskillstests

How do I Apply?

• Visit the UCAS Teacher Training website: www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/teacher-training
• Complete online application form
• Applications open on 21st November 2013
• No closing deadline – much depends on subject and university applied to
• All Primary and many Secondary subjects fill-up quickly
The Application Process

- Apply online
- References
- CRB or Garda Check and Health Check
- Acknowledged by GTTR
- Referred to selected universities/Decision to interview or not
- If "Yes" may lead to offer of a place

Personal Statement

- Describe briefly your reasons for wanting to become a teacher
- Previous school experience e.g. work placement in school (not necessarily teaching), games coaching, one to one tuition, voluntary work etc
- Good Subject Knowledge
- Realistic expectations
- Awareness of current trends in education

The Interview

- Usually half day event
- Possible Tasks
  - Group Interview
  - Presentation
- Subject knowledge check
- Individual Interview
  - Commitment to teaching
  - Subject Knowledge
  - Evidence of your school experience

Popular Universities for Irish Students

Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, Liverpool
www.edgehill.ac.uk
Close to Liverpool and Manchester Airports

University of Portsmouth
www.port.ac.uk

London South Bank University
(Only Primary)
www.lsbu.ac.uk

Money, Money, Money

- Tuition Fees – Currently (2013 entry) £9,000
  2014 - likely to remain the same.
- Student loans available for EU Students
  www.slc.co.uk
- Local Authority Grants & University Hardship Grants are available but these are means tested
See also: www.tda.gov.uk

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

Will I receive funding whilst I train? Possibly
(but not offered in Scotland, Wales or N. Ireland)

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<th>Training Bursary 2012/2013</th>
<th>Physics</th>
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<th>Chemistry</th>
<th>Modern Foreign Languages</th>
<th>Primary and other priority Secondary</th>
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Primary & other Secondary Specialisms

| Art & Design | Engineering |
| Economics    | Drama       |
| English      | History     |
| Geography    | Computer Science |
| ICT          | Music       |
| Classics     | Physical Education |
| Biology      | Religious Education |
| Design & Technology | |

Subjects which don’t attract a Bursary

| General Science | Media Studies |
| Business Studies| Psychology    |
| Citizenship     | Social Sciences|
| Applied Science | Leisure & Tourism|
| Health & Social Care | |

Edge Hill University, Liverpool

www.edgehill.ac.uk

- 35 mins from Liverpool John Lennon Airport, 25 mins to city centre.
- Campus University close to Liverpool & Manchester.
- Largest provider of Teacher Education in the UK
- Excellent reputation
- Popular with Irish students.
- Low accommodation costs

About us

Edge Hill University

- Voted ‘Best in the North West’ for ITT by the National Student Survey
- 92.5% of Edge Hill’s PGCE graduates secure employment as teachers within 6 months
- Close partnerships with over 3,000 schools, colleges, Local Authorities and professional bodies
- Possibility of Teaching Placement in Northern Ireland

Postgraduate Teacher Training

PGCE Information Days 2013

- Queens University, Belfast – Wed 16th October
- Wellington Park Hotel, Belfast – Mon 4th November
- Letterkenny Institute of Technology – Tues 5th November
- Trinity College Dublin – Wed 6th November
- Trinity Capital Hotel Dublin – Thurs 7th November
- University of Limerick – Thurs 7th Nov November

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