

## Information sheet 004: Training to teach in the FE sector in Wales

Students in the FE sector in Wales might be learning in any of the following:

- Colleges of further education
- Community learning and development centres
- Places of work
- Private training organisations
- Sixth form colleges
- Universities

Their learning will be directed by specialist teachers, trainers, tutors and assessors. This information sheet deals with the professional qualifications needed by these specialists if they are involved in publicly funded provision in Wales.

### Specific information is given as follows:

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Please note that the qualifications framework in Wales is different from that in England, Northern Ireland, and Scotland. Please contact the Information and Advice team if you want information about the qualifications in any of these other parts of the UK.

### 1) Teachers, trainers and tutors

#### (a) New entrants to the profession

##### FE Colleges

To teach in FE colleges in Wales, you need to hold, or gain, an Institute for Learning (<http://www.ifl.ac.uk>) endorsed teaching qualification, for Wales. This is a legal

requirement, stated in the Welsh Statutory Instrument 2002 No. 1663 (W.158). You can read this in full at <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/wales/wsi2002/20021663e.htm>

There are a variety of qualifications that meet these requirements. A list of course providers in Wales is available on request.

### **Work Based Learning (WBL) and Adult and Community Learning (ACL)**

To teach in WBL and ACL in Wales, there is no legal requirement to hold or gain an endorsed teaching qualification for Wales. However, providers are increasingly requiring staff to undertake teaching qualifications as part of the post 16 Quality and Effectiveness Framework in Wales

### **Routes to Professional Qualification**

There are two ways in which teachers, trainers and tutors can receive the appropriate professional training for their role, full-time and part-time. New full-time teachers have two years and new part-time teachers have four years to gain the professional qualification.

#### **Full-time route**

This is usually a “pre-service” training route undertaken during a one-year, full-time programme prior to entering employment in the sector. A list of course providers in Wales is available on request.

If you wish to start a full-time course, you should make a direct approach to a suitable course provider to obtain guidance and information on pre-entry requirements.

Currently there are three full time course providers in Wales which are:

Glyndŵr University: <http://www.glyndwr.ac.uk>

Newport: <http://www3.newport.ac.uk>

Cardiff: <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk>

These university courses are also “franchised” out to colleges across Wales and the colleges offer full time and part time courses. A list of these course providers in Wales is available on request.

#### **Part-time route**

You might wish to follow a part-time teacher training and education course for one of two reasons.

- ✧ You have managed to secure work prior to gaining one of the required teaching qualifications. You should contact a member of your employer’s human resources department to ensure that your employer enables you to attend a course leading to an endorsed qualification.
- ✧ You wish to remain in your current employment but to qualify before switching to employment as a teacher, trainer or tutor. In this case, you should contact your

local college of further education to enquire about part-time courses. You will find the telephone numbers of your local colleges in your local telephone directory. If you choose this part-time route before switching career into teaching, training or tutoring, you will be required to organise some teaching hours so that you can satisfy the requirements of the course. You can approach local colleges and other education providers offering courses in your subject specialist area(s) to seek teaching work. Information on other places to seek work is listed on page 7

**(b) Existing teachers in FE**

The expectation is that all teaching staff will be qualified, as stated in the Welsh Statutory Instrument 2002 No. 1663 (W.158). Any staff teaching prior to July 2002 have the right, under the above legislation, to continue teaching without taking further qualifications.

**(c) Essential Skills Wales/ Basic Skills Teachers (adult literacy, adult numeracy and English for Speakers of Other Languages)**

There is currently no legal requirement for a basic skills teacher in Wales to hold an ESOL, Literacy or Numeracy subject specific qualification. However, providers are increasingly requiring staff to undertake subject specific qualifications as part of the Basic Skills Cymru Quality Standard for post 16 providers.

Find out more about the Quality Standard in Wales by visiting:

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/allsectorpolicies/basicskillscymru/adultlearners/developingprovision/?lang=en>

The Basic Skills Cymru in Wales have worked with City & Guilds and the University of Wales, Newport, to develop training, professional development and qualifications for teachers of Basic Skills in Wales.

For those people who support basic skills, Level 2 and Level 3 City & Guilds qualifications were available until September 2011. Welsh Assembly government were working with the sector to develop new level 2 and 3 qualifications for October 2011, no updates currently available from City & Guilds .

For those people in the full teacher role, Level 5 subject specific qualifications are offered by the University of Newport on both a full and part-time basis.

The courses are recognised in Wales and England but do not automatically meet the requirements of ESOL, Literacy or Numeracy teaching in other nations.

You can find out more about the courses by contacting the University Information Centre on:

[uic@newport.ac.uk](mailto:uic@newport.ac.uk) or telephone on 01633 432432.

## **2) Assessors**

If your work involves the assessment of students following NVQ courses, you will need to gain an assessor award (Award and Certificate in Assessment and Quality Assurance), in addition to the relevant professional qualification as a teacher, trainer or tutor outlined above. You need to be teaching students on NVQ courses to undertake the assessor award.

## **3) University lecturers**

There is currently no legal requirement for university lecturers to hold a teaching qualification. Instead, universities usually seek recruits who have a higher degree in their particular subject plus successful research experience or extensive professional/commercial experience, where relevant. If you intend to become a lecturer on a teacher education programme, it is likely that you will be required to gain a teaching qualification.

The majority of universities offer in-house development programmes for new lecturers. These courses are recognised by the Higher Education Academy (HEA) - the professional body for higher education staff involved in teaching and supporting learning in the UK. For more information, visit the Higher Education Academy website at: <http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/wales> or ask for our information sheet on teaching in Higher Education in the UK.

## **4) Funding and student support for courses**

Student Finance Wales have produced a guide if you normally live in Wales and you are starting full-time undergraduate/other higher education anywhere in the United Kingdom, in the 2012/13 academic year. The guide is available from the website at: [http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/WPIPG001/WPIPS002/WPIPS069/WPIPS108/WPIPS109/SFW\\_GUIDE\\_NEWSTUDENTS\\_ENGLISH\\_1213.PDF](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/WPIPG001/WPIPS002/WPIPS069/WPIPS108/WPIPS109/SFW_GUIDE_NEWSTUDENTS_ENGLISH_1213.PDF)

Students intending to study part-time should read 'A guide to financial support for part-time students in higher education in 2012/13'. This document is scheduled to be available in June 2012. Details of the current funding for 2011/12 can be found at: [http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/WPIPG001/WPIPS002/WPIPS069/WPIPS108/WPIPS110/SFW\\_PT%20BOOK\\_1112\\_ONLINE.PDF](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/WPIPG001/WPIPS002/WPIPS069/WPIPS108/WPIPS110/SFW_PT%20BOOK_1112_ONLINE.PDF)

Further information about all aspects of finance can also be found at: [www.studentfinancewales.co.uk](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk)

## **5) Applying for a job**

Do I need to have a teaching qualification already?

The current Statutory Instrument governing teaching qualifications gives new lecturers two years after appointment in which to gain a teaching qualification

Will employers expect me to have a teaching qualification?

Employers normally provide a Person Specification in their application packs. This Person Specification will tell you whether possession of a teaching qualification is a desirable criterion or an essential criterion in the selection process.

Employers are more likely to recruit unqualified teachers, trainers or tutors if they teach a subject for which it is difficult to recruit (a so-called shortage subject).

Offers of appointment to new entrants without a teaching qualification will always stipulate that the new appointee gains a professional qualification that is appropriate to their role within a specified timescale. Employing colleges usually place new, unqualified lecturers on their own teaching qualification programme.

Some national providers may expect their staff to gain the English qualifications (e.g. Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector – PTLLS), even if they are working in Wales. At the moment the PTLLS isn't automatically recognised in Wales, therefore someone with this qualification in Wales would have to negotiate accreditation for prior learning for the qualification, against the full teaching qualification for Wales.

### **Where do employers advertise vacancies?**

Employers often place advertisements in the local press, especially if these are for part-time posts.

Work-based learning providers usually advertise vacancies in the relevant professional or trade journals.

All colleges and most community learning and development centres advertise full-time vacancies in the 'FE Focus' section of The Times Educational Supplement. This is published each Friday and is available through most newsagents and in public libraries.

These job advertisements are also available on the associated website at <http://www.tesjobs.co.uk> for three weeks after their first appearance.

Universities and some colleges advertise full-time vacancies in the Tuesday edition of The Guardian, also on their website <http://jobs.guardian.co.uk> and in the Thursday edition of The Independent, also on their website <http://ijobs.independent.co.uk/>

University vacancies are also advertised in <http://www.jobs.ac.uk>

Further education posts are also advertised in <http://www.fejobs.com>, on <http://www.fecareers.co.uk> and on <http://www.teachfe.com>

Teaching jobs specific to Wales are advertised in <http://www.welshjobs.com/Sectors/54/Education-Teaching-Jobs> and in

<http://www.jobswales.co.uk/jobs/education>

## **6) Further Information**

Welsh Statutory Instrument 2002 No. 1663 (W.158) found at:

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/wales/wsi2002/20021663e.htm>

Education and Skills on the Welsh Assembly Government Education & Skills website:

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/?lang=en>

The national organisation representing the 23 further education (FE) colleges and two FE institutions in Wales: <http://www.colegaucymru.ac.uk/en-GB/home-1.aspx>