

Information for Centres



PDA: Introduction to Tutoring ESOL

SCQF level 6 (G91E 46)

The Professional Development Award: Introduction to Tutoring ESOL (PDA: ITESOL) provides an introduction to the core knowledge and skills required to tutor ESOL learners in a supported context. It supports a range of practitioners who are new to the field of ESOL and/or who have no recognised TESOL/TEFL¹ qualifications. It is also relevant for teachers of other subjects who have ESOL learners in their classes and who wish to develop a broader understanding of issues related to English language development.

Aims

The PDA: ITESOL:

- ◆ provides the underpinning core knowledge required to tutor ESOL learners
- ◆ develops awareness of English language skills development
- ◆ enhances the ability to integrate language skills development within ESOL delivery
- ◆ develops practical tutoring skills in an ESOL context

Structure

The award consists of two mandatory Units and 16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6:

- ◆ Language and Learning in ESOL F43X 33

This Unit introduces a learner-centred (social practice approach) to ESOL. It highlights the diversity of ESOL learners and learning, develops knowledge of the structure of English, investigates the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, and explores the significance of appropriate language selection within ESOL delivery.

- ◆ Developing ESOL Tutoring Skills F43W 33

This Unit focuses on the cycle of planning, delivering and reviewing in an ESOL tutoring context. Candidates observe experienced practitioners, plan ESOL tutoring sessions, select appropriate materials and design tasks, deliver tutoring sessions and review these sessions. The Core Skill of Problem Solving at SCQF level 6 is embedded within this Unit.

¹ TESOL — Teaching English for Speakers of Other Languages
TEFL — Teaching English as a Foreign Language

Entry

Candidates should have appropriate English language competence across the four skills — listening, speaking, reading and writing. These skills must be at a sufficient level (SCQF level 5 minimum) to equip them to successfully participate in a training course and to meet the assessment requirements.

In addition, candidates should have confidence in their own literacy and communication abilities and an interest in, and commitment to, the development of ESOL in Scotland. It is also recommended that candidates have a willingness to learn and use basic ICT skills.

Delivery

It is recommended that the Units are delivered in the following order:

Unit code	Unit Title	Hours
F43X 33	Language and Learning in ESOL	40
F43W 33	Developing ESOL Tutoring Skills	40

Progression

The PDA: ITESOL forms the first stage of an emerging Professional Development Framework for ESOL practitioners in Scotland, which recognises the need for current and prospective ESOL practitioners to have access to accredited subject-specific teaching qualifications, designed to a national standard.

SQA also offers a PDA in ESOL Literacies: Teaching Adults Reading, Writing and Numeracy (SCQF level 8) G7PY 16. This qualification is intended for experienced ESOL practitioners who wish to develop competences to teach literacies to adult ESOL literacies learners.

SQA is currently developing qualifications for ESOL practitioners set at SCQF level 9.

The PDA: ITESOL facilitates progression to TESOL qualifications from other awarding bodies, such as Cert TESOL (Trinity College, London) and CELTA (Cambridge ESOL). Note that there is no guarantee of automatic entry onto a course leading to these qualifications, as the relevant awarding bodies and course providers may have specific selection criteria.

Find out more

There is more information about PDA: ITESOL and other TESOL qualifications which SQA offers at: www.sqa.org.uk/pdatesol.