

School governors: professional development

From: [National College for Teaching and Leadership](#) 21 July 2015

Find out what training is available for school governors and how to apply.

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Chairs of Governors' Leadership Development Programme

Who can apply

This programme is suitable for aspiring chairs, those new to the role and experienced chairs.

Apply

Apply with one of the [organisations licensed to offer this training](#).

What's involved

The programme consists of 3 units, each studied over a term. Each unit focuses on an essential element of being an effective chair:

- the role of the chair, the leader
- leading the governing body and effective governance
- leading change and continuous improvement

You can study individual units together as a programme or take a single unit depending on your needs.

Each unit includes:

- a workshop providing opportunities to collaborate and learn with peers
- opportunities to reflect on leadership practice
- school-based activities leading to school improvement
- access to a mentor for support, guidance and challenge
- online learning
- an online leadership diagnostic to guide your development

Costs

The recommended price for the programme (all 3 units) is £399, although the cost may vary by licensee.

The cost of taking individual units varies by licensee. [Contact your licensee for further details](#).

Unfortunately, we're unable to pay your travel or supply cover costs.

Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships will be available for the 2015 to 2016 financial year. These will be for chairs in the following settings:

- scholarships of £320 if you're in a small school with 100 or fewer pupils
- scholarships of £200 if you're in a state-funded educational setting

You may be eligible if you're an aspiring or existing chair of governors from the English state-maintained sector or a non-maintained special school. This includes:

- community schools and colleges
- foundation schools and colleges
- voluntary-aided schools and colleges
- voluntary-controlled schools and colleges
- pupil referral units
- academies
- local authority nursery schools
- free schools
- secure units
- city technology colleges
- non-maintained special schools and studio schools

Scholarships are only available if you take the full programme. They're not available if you choose to take individual units.

We can't guarantee that scholarships will be available in future financial years.

Apply for a scholarship

[Contact your licensee to apply for a scholarship as part of your programme application](#). Licensees will prioritise scholarships in their own regions.

We'll pay the scholarship to your licensee, not to you or your school. You should arrange to pay any remaining balance with your licensee, as we're not responsible for processing these payments.

Training workshops for governing body members

Who can apply

You should be a school or academy governor.

Apply

Book a place directly with one of the [schools or organisations licensed to offer these workshops](#).

What's involved

The workshops address strategic themes for governing bodies. There are 3 workshops to support you with your governor responsibilities. Each lasts for 3 hours with a break. They are:

- Understanding and using performance-related pay
- Understanding and using RAISEonline to improve school outcomes
- Improving financial efficiencies in school

Costs

The workshops are free for up to 3 governors (which can include the headteacher) from your school or academy.

Clerks to Governing Bodies Training Programme

Who can apply

You should be a new or experienced clerk to a governing body.

Apply

Apply with one of the [organisations licensed to offer this training](#).

What's involved

The programme takes about 35 hours and will develop your skills to support your governing body. Your learning will take place through:

- face-to-face sessions
- online learning
- group working
- personal reflection

Costs and scholarships

The recommended cost of the programme will be £399, although this may vary by licensee.

A limited number of scholarships will be available for the 2015 to 2016 financial year. These will be for clerks in the following settings:

- scholarships of £320 if you're in a small school with 100 or fewer pupils
- scholarships of £200 if you're in a state-funded educational setting

We can't guarantee that scholarships will be available in future financial years.

Contact us

Governance

Email governors.mailbox@education.gsi.gov.uk

Further information on external reviews of governance, national leaders of governance and leadership development opportunities for governors.