

Policy Briefing: T-levels

The diagram shows how the laboratory science specialism sits within the family of T-level programmes.

There are 11 occupational routes for which T-levels are being developed. Within the Health and Science route, there will be Health and Healthcare Science T-levels alongside the Science T-level.

Timeline

- Roll-out of T-levels is phased over the period 2020–2023.
- [Outline content for the Science T-level](#) has been confirmed.
- Development of the course specification and assessment for the Science T-level will begin in autumn 2019.
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- A full T-level programme will comprise around 1800 learning hours.
- The Core is common to all learners taking a given pathway; all students studying the Science T-level will follow the same Core. A subsection of the Core content will be common across the three Health and Science pathways.
- The Core and Occupational specialism together form the Technical Qualification. Technical Qualifications will be designed and delivered by Awarding Organisations (AOs), and regulated by Ofqual.
- Providers are responsible for finding industry placement opportunities for students with local employers.
- Different models for the industry placements are being piloted to see what works best for specific industries and providers. The placement could be a continuous block of working days, a part-time arrangement alongside classroom study, or distributed across the study programme. The DfE will confirm how placements should be delivered once the pilots have been completed.
- Students must achieve a minimum of level 2 English and maths by the time they complete the T-level programme. This would be, for example, a GCSE at grade 4 or above or a functional skills qualification. Students who have not yet achieved level 2 when they begin the T-level will be funded for the additional study time to fulfil this requirement.
- A student must pass all aspects of the Technical Qualification, complete the industry placement, and fulfil the maths and English requirements to pass the full T-level programme and receive a certificate. A student who does not complete all components of the T-level, but does complete some, will receive a statement of achievement.