

# Teacher Guidance Notes 2016/17

Please read before informing students about our programmes.

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## Our Programme

The Social Mobility Foundation (SMF) offers a core programme called the Aspiring Professionals Programme across 11 career sectors (see diagram below). Students who are unsure of what they want to do can choose No Preference.

ACCOUNTANCY 	ARCHITECTURE 	BANKING & FINANCE 	BIOLOGY & CHEMISTRY 	BUSINESS 	ENGINEERING & PHYSICS 
LAW 	MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS 	MEDICINE 	POLITICS 	TECHNOLOGY 	NO PREFERENCE 

- APP City:** Open to students living within one hour commutable distance of Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester or Newcastle.
- APP Residential:** Open to students living outside London interested in Accountancy, Banking & Finance, Engineering, Law or Medicine.
- APP Reach:** We are very keen to work with schools, colleges and parts of the country that do not usually have young people on our programmes. Therefore if your top achievers don't quite meet our criteria, you should encourage them to apply as they may be eligible to receive support. APP Reach is designed to offer as many aspects of our programme as we can to people who could benefit from our activities and resources, subject to our capacity and their location. To find out more about APP Reach, please contact us.

How students receive the support will depend on their home city and the career sector they are interested in.

	APP	APP CH2M RESIDENTIAL	APP J.P. MORGAN RESIDENTIAL	APP KPMG RESIDENTIAL	APP LAW RESIDENTIAL	APP MEDICINE RESIDENTIAL
	<i>All sectors</i>	<i>Engineering</i>	<i>Banking &amp; Finance</i>	<i>Accountancy</i>	<i>Law</i>	<i>Medicine</i>
Birmingham	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glasgow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Leeds	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Liverpool	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
London	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Manchester	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newcastle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other City (England)	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other City (Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales)	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

Students living in **Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester or Newcastle** can apply for the APP City and APP Residential, providing they meet the subject criteria and are genuinely interested in the particular sector.

## Eligibility Criteria

Our programme is specifically aimed at motivated students from less privileged backgrounds. To ensure we target those students who would benefit most from the programme, we urge you to consider if students will:

- ✿ Realistically achieve at least ABB at A-Level or ABBB in their Highers (or IB equivalent).
- ✿ Thrive on an academically driven programme and in professional situations (with support from us).
- ✿ Positively represent the SMF and your college/sixth form, to prestigious employers.
- ✿ Engage fully in all aspects of the programme, including e-mentoring and attending workshops/visits.

Students who have studied at a Grammar School in England since Year 12 will be taken on a case by case basis. We will not accept applications from students who have studied at a Grammar School in England since Year 7 or from students who have studied, or currently study, at an Independent School.

To apply for the APP students must meet the following **academic and background criteria**.

Exceptions to these criteria can be made for **Children in Care** or those with **extenuating circumstances**. Please see <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/looked-young-people-care-leavers/> or contact us to find out more.

	England, Wales and Northern Ireland	Scotland
Year	Currently in Year 12 in England and Wales or Year 13 in Northern Ireland.	Currently in S5.
Academic History	Have at least 5 A grades at GCSE <b>OR</b> Have at least 4 A grades at GCSE but took these at a school with a 50% or lower GCSE pass rate.	Have at least 5 A/B grades in National 5 <b>OR</b> Have at least 4 A/B grades at National 5 but took these at a school with a 50% or lower National 5 pass rate.*
Predicted Grades	Predicted at least ABB at A-Level or IB equivalent.	Predicted at least ABBB in Highers or IB equivalent.
Background Criteria	Be currently, or previously, <b>eligible</b> for Free School Meals (FSM). This has to be confirmed by a teacher. It doesn't matter if they don't claim this, as long as their household is below the £16,190 threshold. <b>OR</b> <b>Students in London:</b> Be in the <b>first generation</b> of their family to attend university <b>and</b> attend or previously attended a school with <b>30% or more</b> of students known to be eligible for FSM. <b>Outside London:</b> Be in the <b>first generation</b> of their family to attend university <b>and</b> attend or previously attended a school with <b>20% or more</b> of students known to be eligible for FSM.	Be currently, or previously, <b>eligible</b> for Free School Meals (FSM). This has to be confirmed by a teacher. It doesn't matter if they don't claim this, as long as their household income is below the £16,105 threshold. <b>OR</b> Be the <b>first generation</b> in their family to attend university <b>and</b> attend or previously attended a school with <b>20% or more</b> students known to be eligible for FSM.

Our GCSE/National 5 and FSM data is based on 2016 government figures and RaiseOnline data. Please check the lists of eligible schools on our website at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/school-list-30-students-known-eligible-free-school-meals-based-dfe-raiseonline-data> and <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/schools-gcse-pass-rate-50>. If a school is not listed and you feel it should be, please contact us. \*If your school does not offer National 5s please let us know.

Students who obtained their results overseas or have studied a mixture of GCSEs, National 5s or BTECs are welcome to apply. Some sectors have **additional grade and subject requirements** which students must meet. These requirements can also be found at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/criteria-programmes>.

Sector	A Level/Higher Requirements
* Architecture	Studying Art and Design.
* Biology & Chemistry	Studying Biology or Chemistry and one further science from the following list: Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Maths or Further Maths.
* Engineering & Physics * APP CH2M Residential	Studying Maths or Further Maths, and Physics.
* APP J.P. Morgan Residential	Studying Maths and <b>predicted at least AAB</b> at A-Level/AABB at Highers.
* Medicine	<b>England, Wales and Northern Ireland:</b> Studying Chemistry and at least one of Biology, Maths, Further Maths or Physics <b>AND</b> achieved at least <b>6 A grades</b> at GCSE, including <b>A grades in all Science subjects</b> <b>or</b> have at least 5 A grades, including A grades in all Science subjects, taken at a school with a 50% or lower GCSE pass rate.
* APP Medicine Residential (for students studying in England only)	<b>Scotland:</b> Studying Chemistry and at least one of Biology, Maths, Further Maths or Physics <b>AND</b> achieved at least <b>6 A/B grades</b> in National 5s, including <b>A/B grades in all Science subjects</b> <b>or</b> achieved at least 5 A/B grades, including A/B grades in all Science subjects, taken at a school with a 50% or lower pass rate.

## The Application Process

Students apply by completing the application form on our website at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/application/>. We encourage you to look through the form with your students or briefly check it afterwards to ensure students have the best chance of being accepted.

Students will be asked to confirm that they meet the academic and background criteria, as detailed above.

## Sector Choice

Students should think carefully about which career sector they are interested in as a large amount of the support, including their mentor, tailored workshops and internships, will be based on this. Please encourage students to research our career sectors on our website and websites such as [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) before deciding.

- \* **First and second preferences:** Students applying to the APP can choose a first and second preference sector. If successful, they will be accepted onto their first preference but will also be invited to events related to their second preference.
- \* **No Preference:** Students who are unsure of what they want to do can choose the 'No Preference' sector. If accepted to the programme, they will be invited to events across our sectors.
- \* **Medicine:** We encourage you to ask students considering Medicine to be realistic regarding their grades and suitability, as Medicine is our most competitive sector. You may wish to encourage students to also consider our Biology & Chemistry or Engineering & Physics sectors as a way to explore career options in other sciences.
- \* **Psychology and Teaching:** We do **not** have internships or mentors in these areas, but, in the past, students have either joined our No Preference sector or chosen another sector to broaden their horizons and get general advice.
- \* **Dentistry, Veterinary Science and Physiotherapy:** We do **not** offer opportunities in these areas. Due to the specific requirements of these courses, we would advise you to research other suitable university and work experience programmes for students interested in pursuing these careers.

## Assessment Questions

We use these questions to get to know students so that they can be offered opportunities relevant to their future aspirations and can be matched to a suitable mentor. We also send their answers to employers if they are offered an internship. Although students need to answer the questions carefully and in detail, there are no right or wrong answers. We are looking for their potential. We do not expect them to be a member of every school club or have completed lots of work experience. Rather, we want to see how they spend their time outside of school and how their interest in their chosen sector has developed.

Please advise students to read the student guidance notes before they apply. These can be found at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/application/>.

## Teacher Reference

Students will be asked to fill in the name and email address of a teacher in the teacher reference section of the application form. We will then email their referee to ask them to complete the teacher reference form. Please click on the link provided in the email to access the form.

The teacher reference provides us with a real insight into the **character, potential** and **circumstances** of each individual student and school. This is why it is so important that we receive a comprehensive reference from you which, amongst other things, might explain **extenuating circumstances** that mean a student did not achieve the GCSE grades they should have or explain any factors which might make their participation in certain aspects of the programme difficult.

For example, we need to know if a student has **been in care** or only **recently entered the British education system**, so we can mark them fairly given their disrupted education experience. An example reference can be found on our website at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/get-involved/teachers/>.

We understand it is early in the year for teachers to make grade predictions, but please use students' prior attainment and their demonstrated achievement so far to make a realistic prediction.

## Eligibility Form

Once they have completed the online application form, students will need to send us their completed eligibility form. This can be found at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/eligibility-consent-forms/>.

## Dates and Deadlines

- ✿ Deadline for student application: **9am, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016**
- ✿ Deadline for receipt of eligibility form: **9am, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017**
- ✿ Deadline for teacher reference: **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

**We must receive all items by the deadlines above to consider an application.**

If you have any additional questions, please check our FAQs link under the programme headings on our website at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/faq/>. If you cannot find the answer you're looking for, please feel free to contact our APP Coordinators:

- ✿ **Birmingham:** 0121 573 0044 or [Ting.Chan@socialmobility.org.uk](mailto:Ting.Chan@socialmobility.org.uk)
- ✿ **Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester:** 0161 850 2809 or [Nikki.Zywina@socialmobility.org.uk](mailto:Nikki.Zywina@socialmobility.org.uk)
- ✿ **Newcastle:** 0191 580 4770 or [Katie.Stamps@socialmobility.org.uk](mailto:Katie.Stamps@socialmobility.org.uk)
- ✿ **Scotland:** 0141 280 2240 or [Elaine.Bryceland@socialmobility.org.uk](mailto:Elaine.Bryceland@socialmobility.org.uk)
- ✿ **All other locations:** 0207 183 1189 or [app@socialmobility.org.uk](mailto:app@socialmobility.org.uk)

We look forward to receiving applications from your students.