

Teacher Guidance Notes 2018/19

Please read before informing students about our programmes.

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Our Programmes

The Social Mobility Foundation (SMF) offers three programmes across 11 career sectors (see diagram below). Students whose interests do not directly fall into one of these sectors, or who are unsure of what they want to do, can choose the No Preference sector.

Accountancy	Engineering & Physics
Architecture	Law
Banking & Finance	Media & Communications
Biology & Chemistry	Medicine
Business	Politics
Digital	No Preference

- **APP City:** For students who live within around one hour's commutable distance from Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Newcastle or Manchester.
- **APP Residential:** Open to students living anywhere outside London interested in Accountancy, Banking & Finance, Business, Engineering, Law, Digital 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 young people who could benefit from our activities and resources. 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 that they are interested in:

	APP City	APP JACOBS RESIDENTIAL	APP J.P. MORGAN RESIDENTIAL	APP KPMG RESIDENTIAL	APP LAW RESIDENTIAL	APP MEDICINE RESIDENTIAL	APP SPRINGBOARD RESIDENTIAL
	<i>All sectors</i>	<i>Engineering</i>	<i>Banking & Finance, Digital</i>	<i>Accountancy</i>	<i>Law</i>	<i>Medicine</i>	<i>No Preference</i>
Birmingham	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cardiff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Glasgow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
Leeds	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Liverpool	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
London	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x

Manchester	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newcastle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other City (England)	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other City (Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales)	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓

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

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 (or Year 13 in Northern Ireland).	Currently in S5.
Academic History	Have at least 5 GCSEs at Grade A/7* OR Have at least 4 A/7 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 OR Have at least 4 A/B grades at National 5 but took these at a school with a 50% or lower 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	<p>Be currently, or previously, eligible 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.</p>	<p>OR</p> <p>Students outside London: Be the first generation of their family to attend university and attend or previously attended a school with 20% or more of students known to be eligible for FSM.</p>	<p>Be currently, or previously, eligible 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.</p>
	<p>Students in London: Be the first generation of their family to attend university and attend or previously attended a school with 30% or more of students known to be eligible for FSM.</p>		<p>OR</p> <p>Be the first generation in their family to attend university and attend or previously attended a school with 20% or more students known to be eligible for FSM.</p>

***Progress 8 and Attainment 8: England Only**

Our academic eligibility criteria will remain the same as last year for English schools. This reflects the current period of transition as Progress 8 and Attainment 8 is introduced and GCSEs move to the 9-1 points scale. There will be no double-weighting for Maths and English. We will consider 7 as an A grade and 8-9 as an A* in these subjects. There will be no 'bucket' system meaning we're happy to include A grades in all subjects, including Distinction in BTECs, when students apply. We will use prior 5 A*-C grade % data to decide whether a school meets our target school eligibility criteria, i.e. a pass rate of 50% or less requires a student to have 4 A grades at GCSE, 51% or more requires a student to have 5 A grades or more.

We appreciate this is a transition period to the new grading system, therefore if your highest achieving students do not meet the academic criteria but have achieved a mix of A/7 and B/6 grades, please encourage them to apply and note this in the teacher reference. Please note, they must still meet our background criteria.

Our GCSE/National 5 and FSM data is based on RaiseOnline and the most recent government figures available at the point of request. Please check the lists of eligible schools on our website <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/get-involved/teachers>. If a school is not listed and you feel it should be, please contact us.

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	GCSE/A-Level/Higher Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountancy • APP KPMG Residential 	<p>Achieved at least a B/6 in Maths GCSE/National 5.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Architecture 	Must be studying at least one of the following subjects: Maths, Art and Design or Physics.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology & Chemistry 	Studying Biology or Chemistry and one further science from the following list: Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Maths or Further Maths.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engineering & Physics APP JACOBS Residential 	Studying Maths or Further Maths, and Physics.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APP J.P. Morgan Residential (Banking & Finance) 	Studying Maths and predicted at least AAB at A-Level/AABB at Highers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APP J.P. Morgan (Digital) 	Studying Maths and any other STEM subject, and predicted at least AAB at A-Level/AABB at Highers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicine APP Medicine Residential 	<p>England, Wales and Northern Ireland: Studying Chemistry and at least one of Biology, Maths, Further Maths or Physics AND achieved at least 6 A/7 grades at GCSE, including A/7 grades in all Science subjects and Maths or have at least 5 A/7 grades, including A/7 grades in all Science subjects and Maths, taken at a school with a 50% or lower GCSE pass rate.</p>
	<p>Scotland: Studying Chemistry and at least one of Biology, Maths, Further Maths or Physics AND achieved at least 6 A/B grades in National 5s, including A/B grades in all Science subjects and Maths or achieved at least 5 A/B grades, including A/B grades in all Science subjects and Maths, taken at a school with a 50% or lower pass rate.</p>

The Application Process

Students apply by completing the application on our website at <http://www.socialmobility.org.uk/apply>. 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 Choices

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 other websites such as 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 whose interests do not fall directly into a sector, or 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 or to events related to their specific interests where possible.
- **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 receive 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. We especially 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/>.

Grade Predictions

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-form/>.

Dates and Deadlines

Deadlines for applications are staggered depending on where students live:

Student Location	Application Deadline
Within 1 hour of London	12 noon, Monday 17th December
Within around 1 hour of Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester or Newcastle	12 noon, Wednesday 19th December
Students living outside the locations above and applying for APP Residential or APP Reach	12 noon, Friday 21st December

The deadline for **all** student eligibility forms and teacher references is **Friday 25th January 2019**.

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 regional teams:

- **Birmingham:** 0121 573 0044 or birmingham@socialmobility.org.uk
- **Cardiff:** 0207 183 1189 or cardiff@socialmobility.org.uk
- **Glasgow:** 0141 280 2240 or glasgow@socialmobility.org.uk
- **Leeds, Manchester:** 0161 850 2809 or manchesterandleeds@socialmobility.org.uk
- **Liverpool:** 0151 794 9160 or liverpool@socialmobility.org.uk
- **Newcastle:** 0191 580 4770 or newcastle@socialmobility.org.uk
- **London:** 0207 183 1189 or london@socialmobility.org.uk
- **All other locations:** 0207 183 1189 (England), 0141 353 5640 (Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales) or residential@socialmobility.org.uk

We look forward to receiving applications from your students.