

What is HLTA?

Higher Level Teaching Assistants. The DfES and the Training and Development Agency (TDA) have developed and published standards for higher level teaching assistants. You can find these at: <http://www.tda.gov.uk/support/hlta.aspx>

How do I get HLTA status?

Through accessing a preparation programme from a provider of preparation. These programmes will help teaching assistants demonstrate that they meet the HLTA Standards and will lead to assessment against the Standards.

What are the training programmes?

1. a **preparation route** of three days preparation leading to assessment for 'HLTA status'. This route is designed for those candidates who have been judged ready to be assessed against the Standards;
2. a '**training programme**' route which will be offered to candidates not yet ready for assessment by training providers. These programmes are likely to be varied. Literacy Matters Ltd offer a modular programme tailored to individual needs.

When do the training programmes start?

Both Preparation courses and Modular training are currently running. You can see Literacy Matters courses at <http://www.literacymatters.com/hltacourses.html>

Who will pay for the training?

Support staff and teaching assistants working in maintained schools seeking 'HLTA status' under each of the routes identified above will be able to apply to their Local Authority for approval to take up a TTA funded training place. In addition, schools may choose to use part of the School Development Grant for this purpose.

Who will provide the training?

You should check with your LA to find out who they have commissioned to provide Preparation and Training for HLTA status

Are there any minimum requirements?

You need to be working in a school, although this requirement may change in the future. You also need a qualification in English and Maths equivalent to NVQ2. See: <http://www.tda.gov.uk/support/hlta/becomingahlta/litandnumrequirements.aspx> for a information about acceptable qualifications.

Want to know more?

See: www.hlta.gov.uk
or email your query to: expert@literacymatters.com