



Advanced Mathematics Support Programme

Advanced Mathematics Premium

The Advanced Mathematics Premium is additional funding for post-16 providers to support increased participation in level 3 maths. The Premium was first announced by the government in the Autumn 2017 Budget statement - section 5.8, and accompanies other measures to improve provision for maths and increase participation, such as relaxing the A level Further Mathematics grade required to C or above for students studying a large programme in order to be eligible for the funding uplift.

The Department for Education (DfE) has now produced guidance for schools and colleges on how the Advanced Mathematics Premium will be calculated.

Summary of the guidance

- The funding is for each additional student, above a baseline, studying a level 3 maths qualification
- The baseline is calculated from the mean number of students studying level 3 maths qualifications in academic years 2015-16 and 2016-17. For any new school, college or other provider (excluding maths schools), including those that do not have student numbers in academic years 2015-16 and 2016-17, the national average of students studying qualifications that attract the premium for their type of provider will be used to determine the baseline.
- Individualised Learner Records (ILR) data and October census data will be used to find the number of students.
- Core Maths and AS/A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics qualifications, along with AS/A level Statistics, and a number of other similar qualifications, are considered as level 3 maths qualifications.
- The first year for the premium is academic year 2018-19.
- The premium will be paid in funding allocations in 2019-20 and for the following 2 years in the first instance.
- The premium is paid at a rate of £600 per year per “additional” student for one year, for AS level equivalent courses, or two years, for A level or equivalent courses.
- A student studying Mathematics and Further Mathematics will be counted twice in the same year.

Full details are available on the DfE website:

gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-funding-advanced-maths-premium

Further details are available from the Further Mathematics Support Programme (FMSP) website:

furthermaths.org.uk/advanced-maths-premium

An illustration of how the premium will be calculated is given below:

Qualification	2015-16	2016-17	Baseline	2018-19
AS level Mathematics	30	28	29	0
A level Mathematics	23	15	19	47
AS level Further Mathematics	4	0	2	4
A level Further Mathematics	1	5	3	4
Total	58	48	53	55

In this case the Advanced Maths Premium for payment in the 2019-20 funding allocation is $2 \times £600 = £1200$. (In this example the figures include students in Year 12 and 13 of A level courses and Year 12 of AS level courses. Students studying AS/A level Maths and Further Maths are counted once in each category.)

The Advanced Maths Premium is excellent news. Funding pressures have meant that many schools and colleges do not offer AS/A level Further Maths or Core Maths or allow students to take AS level Maths. The premium can enable schools and colleges to afford to offer a full range of level 3 mathematics pathways.

Increasing participation in Further Mathematics

There are a range of ways that the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme (AMSP) can support schools and colleges to offer AS and A level Further Mathematics. The FMSP website has help and advice about:

- Strategies for offering Further Mathematics in a cost-effective way, including AMSP support for tuition furthermaths.org.uk/fmsp_tuition
- Schemes of work for Further Mathematics furthermaths.org.uk/schemes-of-work
- Offering AS Further Mathematics in Year 13 furthermaths.org.uk/as_fm_year13
- Offering AS Further Mathematics or over two years furthermaths.org.uk/as-fm-2-years

Offering the opportunity for students to study AS level Further Mathematics in Year 12 or 13 is one way to increase participation in Further Mathematics and AS Further Maths is accessible to a wide range of students and will benefit students going on to study a STEM degree.

Increasing participation in AS level Mathematics

Many students can really benefit from taking AS level Mathematics, even if they don't continue to full A level. Schools and colleges which have withdrawn the option for students in year 12 to study for AS levels should consider reinstating this option to increase participation in mathematics and benefit from the additional Advanced Maths Premium funding.

Increasing participation in Core Maths

The Advanced Maths Premium offers an excellent opportunity for schools and colleges to introduce Core Maths provision. This is a new level 3 mathematics qualification equivalent in size to an AS level qualification. Introducing Core Maths could dramatically increase the number of students studying level 3 mathematics and for each additional student there would be an extra £600 in funding.

An example of how reinstating AS level Mathematics and introducing Core Maths in year 12 could affect the premium:

Qualification	2015-16	2016-17	Baseline	2018-19
AS level Mathematics	30	28	29	15
A level Mathematics	23	15	19	35
AS level Further Mathematics	4	0	2	4
A level Further Mathematics	1	5	3	4
Core Maths	0	0	0	15
Total	58	48	53	73

In this case the Advanced Maths Premium for payment in the 2019-20 funding allocation is $20 \times \text{£}600 = \text{£}12000$.

Support for Level 3 Mathematics

The Advanced Mathematics Support Programme (AMSP) is a government-funded initiative, managed by MEI, which aims to increase participation in AS/A level Mathematics and Further Mathematics, and Core Maths, and improve the teaching of these level 3 maths qualifications.

The AMSP started on 1 May 2018 and provides national support for teachers and students in all state-funded schools and colleges in England. Additional support will be given to those in priority areas to boost social mobility, so that, whatever their gender, background or location, students can choose their best maths pathway post-16, and have access to high quality maths teaching. Current FMSP support will transfer to the AMSP during the summer term 2018.

Further details are available on the FMSP website furthermaths.org.uk/amsp.