

FAQs regarding Degree Awarding Powers (DAPS) for the Institute of Education

1. How Did Degree-Awarding Powers Happen?

The Institute of Education, along with other associated colleges of the University of London, is an autonomous institution with its own responsibilities for finances, educational quality, academic excellence and standards and research. The Institute of Education was granted the power to award its own taught and research degrees by Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council in December 2006 and decided to implement those powers following discussion with staff and students. A number of other constituent colleges of the University of London - the London School of Economics, University College London and King's College London - have also been granted the power to award its own degrees and other qualifications. The Institute already has an established tradition of awarding its own qualifications as for a number of years; it has awarded Diploma qualifications that provides advanced training in specialist areas of education for experienced teachers and other candidates working in education or related fields.

2. How Will This Affect Students at the Institute?

New students registered from September 2008 onwards:

You will automatically receive the Institute of Education award.

Continuing students on Masters, PGCE, BEd or Foundation Degree:

As a student returning to the Institute in 2008/2009 to continue a taught degree programme and who has remained in registration for at least one more academic year after September 2008, you will have the option to receive an Institute of Education or a University of London degree award.

Continuing Masters, PGCE, BEd or Foundation Degree students who are writing up and not in attendance:

If you are a continuing student who is writing up final work in the September 2008/2009 academic year (i.e., are not in attendance but writing up) you will receive a University of London award.

Postgraduate and Graduate Diplomas and Certificates

You will received an Institute of Education award.

3. What is the Difference Between a University of London Award and an Institute of Education Award?

The main difference will be that the Institute will now be responsible for the issuing of the degree certificates to successful graduates. There will also be a difference in academic dress for graduates who are in possession of Institute awards as opposed to graduates who hold University of London awards.

4. Can I Replace My Existing University of London Degree with an Institute of Education Degree?

No.

5. Will My Institute of Education Degree Be Recognised Overseas?

The Institute of Education is a world premier school of education and its name is recognised globally. Arrangements for degree recognition overseas will thus be unaffected by the change in awarding aegis.

6. Will My Institute of Education Degree Be Recognised by Employers or Prospective Employers?

The Institute of Education is a self-governing institution with a distinguished history. In order to obtain degree-awarding powers, the Institute was inspected by the Quality Assurance Agency in 2005 - whose responsibility it is to check how institutions in the UK maintain their own academic standards and quality - where its fitness, control of academic activities and academic judgment were deemed to be acceptable for the purposes of degree-awarding powers. There should therefore be no problem in your degree being recognised once you leave the Institute.

7. What Will Happen About the Graduation Ceremonies?

The Institute will continue to organise and conduct its own presentation ceremonies for both University of London and Institute of Education graduates which normally take place in the following March after students graduate. The only difference will be in academic dress as outlined in Q3. above.