



ILR data recording checks required by ESFA funded institutions for the 2017 to 2018 academic year

It is important for all institutions funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to carry out data recording checks each year. After reviewing ILR R06 data returns we have highlighted some checks to consider for the academic year 2017 to 2018 in the short note below.

If you have any questions, please contact us using our [online enquiry form](#).

Advice for the 2017 to 2018 academic year for all ILR funded institution types

From the academic year 2017 to 2018 students who started programmes aged 18 in the first year of their programme but who are aged 19 or over on the 31 August 2017 (known as 19+ continuers) now fall under the 16 to 19 ESFA funding methodology at all ILR funded institutions. Up until 2016 to 2017 this advice only applied to sixth form colleges.

It is important therefore that institutions record all such 19+ continuing students in the ILR using the ESFA young people study programme funding code (107), rather than using the ESFA adult funding code (105) as was the case in the previous years.

The guidance on students funded as 19+ continuers is set out in [Funding regulations](#) paragraphs 39 to 41.

39 To maintain eligibility for funding for individual students during a learning programme, a wider definition is used by the funding bodies. A student who was aged 16, 17 or 18 on 31 August at the start of the funding year when they began a learning programme, as recorded on their learning agreement, continues to be funded as a 16- to 18-year-old student. If they become 19 years old during their learning programme such students are funded at 16 to 18 rates to complete their learning programmes.

40 A learning programme comprises all of a student's activities that lead to a set of outcomes agreed with the student as part of their IAG process. A learning programme may be composed of one or more learning aims and may span more than one funding year. A learning programme will generally be centred around learning aims at a single level, with a minority of, if any, learning aims at a different level being used to support the wider needs of the student (for example, a GCSE in mathematics may be appropriate for a student studying non-mathematical A levels). An A level subject taken over 2 years is a single learning programme, whereas progression from GCSEs to A levels is 2 separate learning programmes.

41 Students aged 19 or over who started their programme aged 16 to 18 under the definition in the above paragraphs ('19+ continuing students') are funded at young people rates.

Students who withdraw, transfer or complete study programmes within six weeks

The advice in [Funding regulations](#) 2017 to 2018 in paragraph 72 was updated from the start of this year so that all students who attend a study programme for less than 6 weeks in this funding year are required to have their planned hours adjusted to their actual period of study. No planned hours should be included for any period after the student has left the funded study programme.