



## Learning Aims Reference Application Hierarchy File 2012/13 Guidance Notes

**Date of issue**                    28 October 2013

**Publication intent**            NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

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### **Purpose of This Document**

1. This document provides information about the 2012/13 Learning Aims Reference Application (LARA) Hierarchy file.

### **Changes to the LARA Hierarchy file from 2011/12**

2. There have been no changes made to the format of the LARA Hierarchy file from that produced for 2011/12.

### **Purpose of the LARA Hierarchy File**

3. The LARA hierarchy file provides a static set of learning aims information that is used by the Data Service when producing qualification success rate and minimum standards reports for classroom learning and workplace learning. The LARA hierarchy file can be used by providers and software developers who wish to produce their own classroom learning or workplace learning success rate reports.

### **Contents of the LARA hierarchy file**

4. The LARA hierarchy file contains data for each learning aim on the LEARNING\_AIM table of the LARA database as at the end of the 2012/13 LARA maintenance period, which is 25/10/2013. When extracting data from the ALL\_ANNUAL\_VALUES table, the values extracted refer to the 2012/13 table.
5. LARA only holds the details of aims and frameworks that can be used in the 2012/13 ILR. As success rates are produced for three years (2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13) aims from earlier years may not be present in the LARA hierarchy file. It may be necessary to use the Learning Aims Database (LAD) Hierarchy file for 2010/11 to obtain the data for these aims.

### **Date of Production**

6. The LARA hierarchy file for 2012/13 was published on the Data Service website at the beginning of November 2013.

## Format of the LARA Hierarchy File

7. The hierarchy file is published in three formats:

- Microsoft Access 97 (.MDB)
- Comma Separated (.CSV)
- Pipe Delimited (.PSV)

## Location of the LARA hierarchy File

8. The LARA Hierarchy file can be downloaded from the Success Rates 2012/13 page on the Data Service website:

[http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/success\\_rates/success\\_rates\\_2012-13/](http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/statistics/success_rates/success_rates_2012-13/)

The LARA Hierarchy file is **NOT** available for download from the Misc Downloads page of the LARA Portal.

## Location of the LAD Hierarchy files for 2010/11 and earlier

9. The Learning Aims Database (LAD) Hierarchy file for 2010/11 and earlier are available from the Misc Downloads page of the LAD Portal.

<http://providers.lsc.gov.uk/LAD/Downloads/HierDownloads.asp>

## Hierarchy File Format Changes between LAD and LARA

10. A number of fields which were in LAD, and in the LAD hierarchy files, do not exist in LARA and so are not present in the LARA Hierarchy file. These are:

- PROGRAMME\_WGT\_FACTOR\_CODE
- LSC\_LR\_WGT\_FACTOR\_1618\_CODE
- LSC\_LR\_WGT\_FACTOR\_ADULT\_CODE
- ADDITIONAL\_UNIT
- UNITISATION\_QUAL
- DIAGNOSTIC\_TEST
- TUTORIAL\_COMP\_STUDIES
- AREA\_OF\_LEARNING\_CODE
- NOTIONAL\_NVQ\_WIDTH
- INSP\_CODE\_CODE
- KEY\_SKILL\_CODE

## Format of the LARA Hierarchy Version Record

LARA Hierarchy Fields 2012/13	MS Access Field Type	MS Access Field Size	Description	Source
FREEZE_VERSION	number	double	The version number of the freeze	Set to 1
DATE_CREATED	date/time		The freeze creation date and time	Set to the date and time the hierarchy file was created

## Mapping of LARA Data to the LARA Hierarchy File Records

LARA Hierarchy Fields 2012/13	MS Access Field Type	MS Access Field Size	Description	LARA Source Table	LARA Source Field
ACADEMIC_YEAR_CODE	Text	4	The identifier of the academic year	Default Value	1213
LEARNING_AIM_REF	Text	8	Learning Aim Reference Code	LEARNING_AIM	LEARNING_AIM_REF
LEARNING_AIM_REF_TITLE	Text	150	Description of the learning aim	LEARNING_AIM	LEARNING_AIM_TITLE
MAP_CODE_DESC	Text	150	Map Code Description	MAP_CODES	MAP_CODE_DESC
MAP_CODE_CODE	Text	8	A code used to group learning aims together in a hierarchy for the purpose of analysis	LEARNING_AIM	MAP_CODE_CODE
AWARDING_ORGANISATION_CODE	Text	8	A code to identify the awarding organisation associated with each learning aim record.	LEARNING_AIM	AWARDING_ORGANISATION_CODE
LEARNING_AIM_TYPE_CODE	Text	4	A code used by the Learner Information Suite to assign funding units to certain listed learning aims (e.g. NVQs and GNVQs).	LEARNING_AIM	LEARNING_AIM_TYPE_CODE
NOTIONAL_LEVEL_V2_CODE	Text	1	A Code used to place all learning aims against a system of Levels used by the QCA and Ofqual	LEARNING_AIM	NOTIONAL_LEVEL_V2_CODE
NOTIONAL_NVQ_LEVEL_CODE	Text	1	A Code used to place all learning aims against a system of Levels used by the QCA and Ofqual	LEARNING_AIM	NOTIONAL_NVQ_LEVEL_CODE
LEVEL2_ENTITLEMENT_CAT_CODE	Text	2	A code to indicate the category or 'family' to which the learning aim belongs for the purpose of assessing how far the aim contributes to a Full level 2	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	LEVEL2_ENTITLEMENT_CAT_CODE

LARA Hierarchy Fields 2012/13	MS Access Field Type	MS Access Field Size	Description	LARA Source Table	LARA Source Field
LEVEL2_PERCENTAGE	Number	double	The percentage of a Full Level 2 which a learning aim contributes	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	LEVEL2_PERCENTAGE
LEVEL3_ENTITLEMENT_CAT_CODE	Text	2	A code to indicate the category or 'family' to which the learning aim belongs for the purpose of assessing how far the aim contributes to a Full level 3	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	LEVEL3_ENTITLEMENT_CAT_CODE
LEVEL3_PERCENTAGE	Number	double	The percentage of a Full Level 3 which a learning aim contributes	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	LEVEL3_PERCENTAGE
SSA_TIER1_CODE	Text	5	Code used for (Tier 1) classification of the subject of a learning aim within the QCA Sector Subject Area classification system	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	SSA_TIER1_CODE
SSA_TIER2_CODE	Text	5	Code used for (Tier 2) classification of the subject of a learning aim within the QCA Sector Subject Area classification system	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	SSA_TIER2_CODE
SKILLS_FOR_LIFE	Text	1	Indicates that the learning aim is considered a skill for life relating to achievements in literacy, numeracy and language and counts towards Skills for Life national targets.	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	SKILLS_FOR_LIFE
SKILLS_FOR_LIFE_TYPE_CODE	Text	2	A sub-category identifying the type of skill for life (e.g. Adult literacy, ESOL)	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	SKILLS_FOR_LIFE_TYPE_CODE
CREDIT BASED TYPE_CODE	Text	2	Code to identify each different type of Learning Aim within a credit based framework.	LEARNING_AIM	CREDIT BASED TYPE_CODE
REGULATED_CREDIT_VALUE	Number	double	Indicates the learning aim's credit value within a credit based framework.	ALL_ANNUAL_VALUES for 2012/13	REGULATED_CREDIT_VALUE

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