



## Learning Aims Reference System Hierarchy File 2013/2014 Guidance Notes

**Date of issue**                      03 November 2014

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### **Purpose of This Document**

1. This document provides information about the 2013/2014 Learning Aims Reference System (LARS) Hierarchy file.

### **Changes to the LARS Hierarchy file from the 2012/2013 LARA Hierarchy File**

2. The field names have been changed to match those used in LARS.

### **Purpose of the LARS Hierarchy File**

3. The LARS hierarchy file provides a static set of learning aims information that is used by us when producing qualification success rate and minimum standards reports for classroom learning and workplace learning. The LARS 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 LARS hierarchy file**

4. The LARS hierarchy file contains data for each learning aim on the LearningDelivery table of the LARS database as at the end of the 2013/2014 LARS maintenance period, which is 24/10/2014.
5. LARS only holds the details of aims and frameworks that can be used in the 2013/2014 ILR. As success rates are produced for three years ( 2011/2012, 2012/2013 and 2013/2014) aims from earlier years may not be present in the LARS hierarchy file. It may be necessary to use the Learning Aims Reference Application (LARA) Hierarchy file for 2012/2013 to obtain the data for these aims.

### **Date of Production**

6. The LARS hierarchy file for 2013/2014 was published at the beginning of November 2014.

### **Format of the LARS Hierarchy File**

7. The hierarchy file is published in three formats:
  - Microsoft Access (.MDB)

- Comma Separated Values (.CSV)
- Pipe Delimited (.PSV)

### **Location of the LARA Hierarchy file for 2012/2013**

8. The Learning Aims Reference Application (LARA) Hierarchy file for 2012/2013 is available from the GOV.UK website (at [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/lara-learning-aim-reference-application-hierarchy-file](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/lara-learning-aim-reference-application-hierarchy-file))

### **Hierarchy File Format Changes between LARA and LARS**

9. The NOTIONAL\_LEVEL\_V2\_CODE field has been removed as it is not used on the qualification success rate reports.

## Format of the LARS Hierarchy Version Record

LARS Hierarchy Fields 2013/2014	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 LARS Data to the LARS Hierarchy File Records

LARS Hierarchy Fields 2013/2014	MS Access Field Type	MS Access Field Size	Description	LARS Source Table	LARS Source Field
AcadYear	Text	4	The identifier of the academic year	Default Value	1314
LearnAimRef	Text	8	Learning Aim Reference Code	LARS_LearningDelivery	LearnAimRef
LearnAimRefTitle	Text	150	Description of the learning aim	LARS_LearningDelivery	LearnAimRefTitle
SuccRateMAPCodeDesc	Text	150	Map Code Description	LARS_SuccessRateMapCode_Lookup	SuccRateMAPCodeDesc
SuccRateMAPCode	Text	8	A code used to group learning aims together in a hierarchy for the purpose of analysis	LARS_LearningDelivery	SuccRateMAPCode
AwardOrgResp	Text	8	A code to identify the awarding organisation associated with each learning aim record.	LARS_LearningDelivery	AwardOrgCode
LearnAimRefType	Text	4	A code used by the Learner Information Suite to assign funding units to certain listed learning aims (e.g. NVQs and GNVQs).	LARS_LearningDelivery	LearnAimRefType
NotionalNVQLevel	Text	1	A Code used to place all learning aims against a system of Levels used by the QCA and Ofqual	LARS_LearningDelivery	NotionalNVQLevel
FullLevel2EntitCat	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	LARS_AnnualValue	FullLevel2EntitlementCategory
FullLevel2Pct	Number	double	The percentage of a Full Level 2 to which a learning aim contributes	LARS_AnnualValue	FullLevel2Percent
FullLevel3EntitCat	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	LARS_AnnualValue	FullLevel3EntitlementCategory

LARS Hierarchy Fields 2013/2014	MS Access Field Type	MS Access Field Size	Description	LARS Source Table	LARS Source Field
FullLevel3Pct	Number	double	The percentage of a Full Level 3 to which a learning aim contributes	LARS_AnnualValue	FullLevel3Percent
SectSubjAreaTier1	Text	5	Code used for (Tier 1) classification of the subject of a learning aim within the QCA Sector Subject Area classification system	LARS_LearningDelivery	SectSubjAreaTier1
SectSubjAreaTier2	Text	5	Code used for (Tier 2) classification of the subject of a learning aim within the QCA Sector Subject Area classification system	LARS_LearningDelivery	SectSubjAreaTier2
BasicSkills	Text	1	Indicates that the learning aim is considered a basic skill relating to achievements in literacy, numeracy and language and counts towards Basic Skills national targets.	LARS_AnnualValue	BasicSkills
BasicSkillsType	Text	2	A sub-category identifying the type of basic skill (for example, Adult literacy, ESOL)	LARS_AnnualValue	BasicSkillsType
CreditBasedFwkType	Text	2	Code to identify each different type of Learning Aim within a credit based framework.	LARS_LearningDelivery	CreditBasedFwkType
RgltdCreditVal	Number	double	Indicates the learning aim's credit value within a credit based framework.	LARS_LearningDelivery	RegulatedCreditValue

**Produced by:** Skills Funding Agency  
**Date created:** 03 November 2014  
**Version:** 1.0