Education & Skills Funding Agency

# Learning Aims Reference System Hierarchy File 2017/2018 Guidance Notes

**Date of issue**        **1**4th February 2019

### Purpose of This Document

1. This document provides information about the 2017/2018 Learning Aims Reference System (LARS) Hierarchy file.

### Purpose of the LARS Hierarchy File

2. The LARS hierarchy file provides a static set of learning aims information that is used by us when producing qualification achievement rate and minimum standards dashboard for education and training. The LARS hierarchy file can be used by providers and software developers who wish to produce their education and training achievement rate reports.

### Contents of the LARS hierarchy file

3. The LARS hierarchy file contains data for each learning aim on the LearningDelivery table of the LARS database as at the end of the 2017/2018 LARS maintenance period, which is 26/10/2018.

### Date of Production

4. The LARS hierarchy file for 2017/2018 was published in February 2019.

### Format of the LARS Hierarchy File

6. The hierarchy file is published in three formats:

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

**Format of the LARS Hierarchy Version Record**

| LARS Hierarchy Fields 2017/2018 | 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 2017/2018 | MS Access Field Type | MS Access Field Size | Description | LARS Source Table | LARS Source Field |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AcadYear | Short Text | 7 | The identifier of the academic year | Default Value | 2017/18 |
| LearnAimRef | Short Text | 8 | Learning Aim Reference Code | LARS_LearningDelivery | LearnAimRef |
| LearnAimRefTitle | Short Text | 150 | Description of the learning aim | LARS_LearningDelivery | LearnAimRefTitle |
| SuccessRateMapCodeDesc | Short Text | 150 | Map Code Description | LARS_SuccessRateMapCode_Lookup | SuccessRateMapCodeDesc |
| SuccessRateMapCode | Short Text | 8 | A code used to group learning aims together in a hierarchy for the purpose of analysis | LARS_LearningDelivery | SuccessRateMapCode |
| AwardOrgCode | Short Text | 20 | A code to identify the awarding organisation associated with each learning aim record. | LARS_LearningDelivery | AwardOrgCode |
| LearnAimRefType | Short 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 |
| NotionalNVQLevelv2 | Short Text | 5 | A code used to place all learning aims against a system of levels used by the QCA and Ofqual | LARS_LearningDelivery | NotionalNVQLevelv2 |
| NotionalNVQLevel | Short Text | 1 | A Code used to place all learning aims against a system of Levels used by the QCA and Ofqual | LARS_LearningDelivery | NotionalNVQLevel |
| FullLevel2EntitlementCategory | Number | Long Integer | 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 |
| FullLevel2Percent | Number | Decimal (5.2) | The percentage of a Full Level 2 to which a learning aim contributes | LARS_AnnualValue | FullLevel2Percent |

| LARS Hierarchy Fields 2017/2018 | MS Access Field Type | MS Access Field Size | Description | LARS Source Table | LARS Source Field |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FullLevel2Percent | Number | Decimal (5.2) | The percentage of a Full Level 2 to which a learning aim contributes | LARS_AnnualValue | FullLevel2Percent |
| FullLevel3EntitlementCategory | Number | Long Integer | 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 |
| FullLevel3Percent | Number | Decimal (5.2) | The percentage of a Full Level 3 to which a learning aim contributes | LARS_AnnualValue | FullLevel3Percent |
| SectorSubjectAreaTier1 | Number | Decimal (5.2) | Code used for (Tier 1) classification of the subject of a learning aim within the QCA Sector Subject Area classification system | LARS_LearningDelivery | SectorSubjectAreaTier1 |
| SectorSubjectAreaTier2 | Number | Decimal (5.2) | Code used for (Tier 2) classification of the subject of a learning aim within the QCA Sector Subject Area classification system | LARS_LearningDelivery | SectorSubjectAreaTier2 |
| BasicSkills | Number | Long Integer | 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 | Number | Long Integer | A sub-category identifying the type of basic skill (for example, Adult literacy, ESOL) | LARS_AnnualValue | BasicSkillsType |
| CreditBasedFwkType | Number | Long Integer | Code to identify each different type of Learning Aim within a credit based framework. | LARS_LearningDelivery | CreditBasedFwkType |
| RegulatedCreditValue | Number | Long Integer | Indicates the learning aim's credit value within a credit based framework. | LARS_LearningDelivery | RegulatedCreditValue |

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