



Skills Funding
Agency

Update

Issue 319
27 July 2016

Welcome

In this issue of Update, our weekly round-up of business-critical and useful information to Skills Funding Agency (SFA) colleges, other training organisations and direct grant employers:

1. **Apprenticeship Grant for Employers: 2016 to 2017 Change Request Form**
2. **Withdrawal of Frameworks Consultation: Closes Wednesday, 3 August**
3. **Higher Education Learning Aim Requests 2016**
4. **Recruit an Apprentice: New Service**
5. **Learning and Work Institute: Online Technology Report**

Please share Update with your colleagues, who might like to register for [web alerts](#). This will notify them by email when we publish new editions of [Update](#) on [GOV.UK](#). If you have any feedback, please email [Update](#).

1. Apprenticeship Grant for Employers: 2016 to 2017 Change Request Form

Information

As detailed in our [Performance-management Rules 2016 to 2017](#), we will shortly publish the 2016 to 2017 change request form for Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE) allocations. Please use this form to request an increase to your AGE allocation.

If you do not have an AGE allocation you can use this form to request one for the first time; you must have an apprenticeships funding agreement for the appropriate age groups with us.

For further information or related queries, please refer to the [Apprenticeships Framework Funding Rules](#) page on GOV.UK or contact your Business Operations provider manager.

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2. Withdrawal of Frameworks Consultation: Closes Wednesday, 3 August

Information

As part of our apprenticeship reforms work, we have launched a [consultation](#) on the withdrawal of the third batch of apprenticeship frameworks. The consultation closes on **Wednesday, 3 August**.

In March, we withdrew, as there were no starts, the [first](#) batch of apprenticeship frameworks and in May, following consultation with issuing authorities, we withdrew the [second](#) batch.

We will review the feedback and announce the final list for withdrawal in September. The proposed date for withdrawing these frameworks for new starts is 1 April 2017.

For further information, please refer to the [Apprenticeship Changes](#) page on GOV.UK or email the [Service Desk](#).

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3. Higher Education Learning Aim Requests 2016

Information

You must submit requests for new higher education learning aims for the 2015 to 2016 funding year by **Friday, 16 September**.

This will be the final opportunity to allow us to create and upload them to the Learning Aim Reference Service (LARS) database for the R14 submission, which opens on 7 October.

The form and guidance are available to download on the [Individualised Learner Record](#) page on GOV.UK.

Please email the completed forms and all relevant approval information to the [Service Desk](#).

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4. Recruit an apprentice: New Service

Information

During August, we will launch the new Recruit an apprentice service on GOV.UK. This will enable users to advertise apprenticeship vacancies and traineeship opportunities in England and will replace the [Apprenticeship vacancies](#) (Av) service.

We have designed the new service to make the process of posting and managing vacancies quicker and easier. We are moving existing accounts from Av to the new Recruit an apprentice service over the next few weeks.

We will inform users through their Av login when their data has moved successfully and how to access the new service. Later this week, we will also send users further detailed communications about the new service.

For further information, please email the [Recruit an apprentice](#) mailbox.

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5. Learning and Work Institute: Online Technology Report Information

We commissioned the [Learning and Work Institute](#) to produce a report to research and review the issues and obstacles that prevent further education providers from taking full advantage of technology.

You can use this [report](#) to support the better use of technology in FE including using the area review process to achieve this.

This was in response to the Further Education Learning Technology Action Group's (FELTAG) [report](#). Their report looked at practical recommendations aimed at ensuring the effective use of digital technology in learning, teaching and assessment in further education and skills.

For further information or related queries, please email [Liz Adcocks](#).



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