



Skills Funding  
Agency

Update

Issue 307  
4 May 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. **Individualised Learner Record R09 2015 to 2016: Closes Friday, 6 May**
2. **Advanced Learner Loans: Eligibility Criteria Expanding**
3. **New Apprenticeship Standards: Survey**

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## 1. Individualised Learner Record R09 2015 to 2016: Closes Friday, 6 May

### Action

The individualised learner record (ILR) R09 data collection for the 2015 to 2016 funding year will close at **6.00pm** on **Friday, 6 May**.

If you are due to make a return for R09, you must submit your data to [the Hub](#).

We publish a [maintenance schedule](#), which lists collection dates and proposed system maintenance.

For further information, please refer to the [Payments and Data](#) page on GOV.UK.

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## 2. Advanced Learner Loans: Eligibility Criteria Expanding Information

The eligibility criteria for learners applying for [Advanced Learner Loans](#) will be expanded in the 2016 to 2017 academic year.

Loans will now be available to anyone who has either spent at least half their life or at least 20 years in the UK before the first day of their course.

To access a Loan, learners will also need to demonstrate three years' ordinary lawful residence in the UK immediately preceding the start of their course, and meet other relevant eligibility criteria.

For further information, please email [Advanced Learner Loans](#).

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### 3. New Apprenticeship Standards: Survey

#### Information

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) has launched the latest in a series of short surveys to seek your views on apprenticeships proposals submitted by employers:

- [Survey on brand new apprenticeship proposals](#)
- [Survey on draft apprenticeship standards](#)
- [Survey on draft assessment plans](#)


Your feedback will help ensure that new apprenticeships are viable and widely supported.

The surveys close on **Friday, 13 May**; BIS will upload approved standards and assessment plans to the [Apprenticeship Standards](#) page of GOV.UK.

For further information, or to receive regular updates on the latest bids, please email [Apprenticeship Trailblazers](#).

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