



Skills Funding
Agency

Update

Issue 290
6 January 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 R05 2015 to 2016**
2. **Apprenticeship Grant for Employers 2015: Closing Date for Facility Increases**
3. **Financial Assurance Review Documents 2015 to 2016**
4. **Apprenticeship Vacancies and Traineeship Opportunities**

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](#).

NOTE: Our [Business Cycle](#) sets out the key milestones from April 2015 to March 2016 and will help you plan ahead.

1. Individualised Learner Record R05 2015 to 2016

Action

The individualised learner record (ILR) R05 data collection for the 2015 to 2016 funding year closes at **6.00pm** on **Thursday, 7 January**.

If you are due to make a return for R05, you must submit your data to [the Hub](#).

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

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

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2. Apprenticeship Grant for Employers 2015: Closing Date for Facility Increases

Action

The Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE) 2015 is available for apprentices who started from 1 January to 31 December 2015. The last date to [request an increase](#) to your 2015 AGE facility is this **Friday, 8 January**.

Please ensure that your facility is sufficient to process the AGE grants to eligible employers whose apprentices started no later than 31 December 2015. Growth requests are subject to availability and we will process them on a first-come, first-served basis.

As indicated in [Update 289](#), we will share information later this month about AGE for apprentices who started from 1 January 2016.

For further information, please contact your Central Delivery Service adviser.

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3. Financial Assurance Review Documents 2015 to 2016

Information

We have published updated provider financial management and assurance working papers for the 2015 to 2016 funding year on the [Financial Assurance](#) section of our website on [GOV.UK](#).

These cover the Adult Skills Budget, 16 to 18 provision (apprenticeships and traineeships), Offender Learning and Skills Service and Education Funding Agency-funded 16 to 19 provision.

We will use these working papers to audit a sample of colleges' and training organisations' skills training provision and funding claims. This will help us form an opinion on whether the funding claims comply with the funding requirements.

For further information or related queries, please email pfm@sfa.bis.gov.uk.

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4. Apprenticeship Vacancies and Traineeship Opportunities

Promotion


To advise you about the support the National Apprenticeship Service can give to help promote your apprenticeship vacancies and traineeship opportunities, we have [published some useful information](#).

It informs you of what we consider when we receive requests to send out e-shots and add vacancies to social media. You may find it particularly helpful when planning to promote your apprenticeship vacancies and traineeship opportunities.

For more information, please email [Consumer Services](#).

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