



Pearson UK – Funding News

Friday 9 January 2015

Funding News provides a regular round-up of 16-18, 19+ and apprenticeship funding, and related news from government departments, funding agencies and other relevant organisations.

Key funding news this week is the publication of the latest Skills Funding Agency simplified funding catalogue for 2014/15 which includes the Level 2 BTEC NQF Firsts automatically approved for 19+ funding as a result of being included in the 16-19 performance tables.

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills – Information on applications for 24+ advanced learning loans

The latest of the regular [updates](#) on information on applications for 24+ advanced learning loans received by the Student Loans Company for the August 2014 to July 2015 academic year is now available. The main headlines are 1) 50,640 applications were received between 14 April and 30 November, 2) 3,230 applications were received between 1-30 November, 3) 2,300 applications were processed between 1-30 November, and 4) the largest amount of applications between 1-30 November (1,200) was in the 31-40 age band.

Skills Funding Agency – Latest release of the simplified funding catalogue for 2014/15

The latest [simplified funding catalogue](#) was released by the Agency earlier this week (6 January 2015). The catalogue lists the qualifications the Agency has approved for public funding in 2014 to 2015 and their funding rates. The update includes the 12 Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 NQF Firsts that have been automatically approved for 19+ funding as a result of being included in the [16-19 performance tables](#) (in the technical certificate category). The remaining Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 NQF Firsts not automatically approved cannot be funded for 19+ learners under the current rules but we expect the new funding guidance from the Agency, due out this month, to allow us to make submissions for 19+ funding for NQF qualifications. The first simplified funding catalogue for 2015 to 2016 is also expected this month.

The 12 Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 NQF Firsts now approved for 19+ funding for 2014/15:

601/0167/2	Extended Certificate in Creative Digital Media Production
601/0166/0	Diploma in Creative Digital Media Production
601/0258/5	Extended Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment
601/0259/7	Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment
600/6630/1	Extended Certificate in Engineering
601/0545/8	Diploma in Engineering
600/6072/4	Extended Certificate in Information and Creative Technology
601/0169/6	Diploma in Information and Creative Technology
601/0233/0	Extended Certificate in Travel and Tourism
601/0234/2	Diploma in Travel and Tourism
601/0231/7	Extended Certificate in Hospitality
601/0230/5	Diploma in Hospitality

Skills Funding Agency – Funding systems information and guidance programme

An updated [calendar](#) is available from the Skills Funding Agency which focuses on funding systems and data collection and lists a range of products including meetings, publications and e-learning for colleges and training organisations. The Agency will update the calendar regularly and has produced the information to help providers see the range of information that the Agency produces, provide a central link to training resources and up-to-date information on all matters relating to funding and the Individualised Learner Record (ILR), and show how the Agency engage with colleges, training organisations and employers/businesses.

Skills Funding Agency – Growth and virement requests: 2014 to 2015

The Agency have announced that providers are now able to submit requests for increases and virements to Adult Skills Budget (ASB) and 16 to 18 apprenticeships (including 16 to 18 traineeships) for the funding year 2014 to 2015, in preparation for the performance-management point 2 review. A simple template for submissions is available [here](#). Forms need to be sent in before 5.00pm on 27 January.

Education Funding Agency – Training videos and webinars hosting site re-launched

The EFA have and re-launched the hosting [site](#) for their training videos and webinars. The site is designed to be easier to navigate and to make it easier to access information relating to specific financial years. It contains a number of recordings relating to finance, funding, capital funding and general EFA updates. Recently added webinars include guidance about the academies August accounts return and the Condition Improvement Fund and a short training video about using the EFA Information Exchange.

Pearson – Steve Besley’s Policy Watches

The latest from Steve Besley includes [Policy Tracker - Keeping track of what happened in the world of education in December 2014](#), and [Policy Eye - Week ending 19 December 2014](#). Find these and the archives on the [Pearson UK](#) website.

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Information is correct at the time of writing and is offered in good faith. No liability is accepted for decisions made on the basis of information given.