



Pearson UK – Funding News

24 April March 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.

Not a huge amount of funding news this week, but key news includes confirmation by the Skills Funding Agency that the BTEC Firsts submitted for 19+ funding have now all been approved, the latest 19+ funding catalogues, an employer guide to trailblazer apprenticeships, supporting information for traineeships, and a minor update to the Funding Rules 2014 to 2015. The Education Funding Agency has published further guidance on the planned hours in study programmes.

Skills Funding Agency

- Qualifications: simplified funding rates, 2014 to 2015, and 2015 to 2016, and BTEC Firsts
- Employer guide to trailblazer apprenticeships
- Traineeships: supporting information
- Funding Rules 2014 to 2015: Version 2 Addendum 3

Education Funding Agency

- 16 to 19 funding: planned hours in study programmes

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- 19+ funding and BTEC Firsts
- Steve Besley's Policy Watches

Skills Funding Agency

Qualifications: simplified funding rates, 2014 to 2015, and 2015 to 2016, and BTEC Firsts

The latest simplified funding rates catalogues for both [2014 to 2015](#), and [2015 to 2016](#) were updated on 22 April with further additions and the results from the entry and level 1 submissions made by awarding bodies. There is excellent news in that all BTEC Firsts recently submitted were approved. See the Pearson news below for further details.

Employer guide to trailblazer apprenticeships

This three page [guide](#) released at the end of March introduces employers to the new trailblazer apprenticeship standards and provides information about the government funding available.

Traineeships: supporting information

At the end of March the Agency released supporting operational [information](#) for employers and training organisations on eligibility, what traineeships will provide, and how they will be delivered and funded. It is designed to support employers and training organisations and confirms the arrangements detailed in the funding rules from the Skills Funding Agency and the Education Funding Agency.

Funding Rules 2014 to 2015: Version 2 Addendum 3

The Agency published this [addendum](#) to their 2014/15 funding rules at the end of March. The amendment reflects the changes to the rules on English and maths in the Specification for Apprenticeship Standards in England (SASE) apprenticeship frameworks. The modifications to the SASE remove the 'five-year rule', which applies to the validity of Functional Skills/GCSEs/Key Skills qualifications in English, maths and ICT (where applicable) on entry to the apprenticeship programme. The Agency will apply the change to the funding rules from 6 April 2015. It applies only to learners who start an apprenticeship on or after that date.

Education Funding Agency

16 to 19 funding: planned hours in study programmes

On the 23 April the EFA released further guidance on planned hours to assist funded institutions planning study programmes across the individual academic years. This useful guide includes amongst other things advice on planned hours and funding allocations, planned hours for full time and part time study programmes, maths and English condition of funding and planned hours, recording planned hours, and audit and planned hours.

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19+ funding and BTEC Firsts

All the BTEC Firsts submitted for 19+ funding in the last window for submissions to the Skills Funding Agency were approved and are now eligible. 19+ funding is confirmed in the latest simplified funding rates catalogues for both [2014 to 2015](#), and [2015 to 2016](#). The complete list of BTEC Firsts eligible for 19+ funding is below.

Agriculture	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	5009547X
Animal Care	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	5008365X
Applied Science	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50066717
Art and Design	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	5007104X
Blacksmithing and Metalworking	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	60002141
Business	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60068164
Business	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60101714
Children's Care, Learning and Development	BTEC Level 2 First Certificate	10062439
Children's Care, Learning and Development	BTEC Level 2 First Diploma	10062440
Construction and the Built Environment	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60102585
Construction and the Built Environment	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60102597
Countryside and Environment	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50099309
Creative Digital Media Production	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60101672
Creative Digital Media Production	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60101660
Engineering	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60066301
Engineering	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60105458
Fish Husbandry	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50083661
Floristry	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50103398
Health and Social Care	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60063129
Health and Social Care	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60101702
Horse Care	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50099292
Horticulture	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50099346
Hospitality	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60102317
Hospitality	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60102305
ICT	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60060724
ICT	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60101696
Land-based Technology	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50103118
Music	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60102603

Music	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60102615
Performing Arts	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	6006870X
Performing Arts	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60101684
Public Services	BTEC Level 2 Diploma (QCF)	50077727
Sport	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60068206
Sport	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60102329
Travel and Tourism	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Extended Certificate	60102330
Travel and Tourism	BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Diploma	60102342

Steve Besley's Policy Watches

The latest from Steve Besley includes [Policy Eye - week ending April 17 2015](#), [Policy Eye - week ending April 10 2015](#), [Policy Eye - week ending April 2 2015](#), [Policy Tracker - Keeping track of what happened in the world of education in March 2015](#), [Policy Eye - week ending March 27 2015](#), [Pocket Watch – Which way for adult voc ed?](#), and [Pocket Watch – School policy lines](#). Find these and more 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.