



Pearson UK: Funding News

16 October 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.

Internal and external colleagues can sign up to receive Funding News directly to their inbox by subscribing [here](#).

News this week includes a report from BIS on the contribution of further education and skills to social mobility, an update on 19+ funding, and the 2015/16 allocations for 16 to 19 provision published by the EFA.

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List of area reviews

BIS and the DfE have added the final area to be reviewed in the first wave of [area based reviews](#) (West Yorkshire). The information shows the colleges in scope of area reviews as well as the timescales, roles and responsibilities within the review process.

Social mobility: contribution of further education and skills

BIS has released a [research report](#) on how further education helps learners and their children improve their standard of living. It investigates how taking part in further education helps people secure better jobs and wages. It also looks at the effects further education has on the prospects for the children of learners. It is a review of published research from government, academics and think tanks.

Apprenticeship standards in development

The latest [list](#) of apprenticeship standards in development and [list](#) of all apprenticeships standards available for employers and training organisations have been published by BIS.

Further education and skills and apprenticeship data

The final [further education and skills data](#) for 2013 to 2014, and provisional further education and skills data for the full 2014 to 2015 academic year is now available. 440,400 employees started an apprenticeship in 2013/14, and provisional data show that this rose to 492,700 in 2014/15. The total number of adult learners participating in government-funded further education in 2013/14 was 2,929,600. After a fall in 2010/11, figures were steady for the next three years, but saw a further decrease (10.7 per cent) in 2013/14. The latest data on the [number of apprenticeship starts and achievements](#) has also been published and provides further information on apprenticeships.

Updated [data](#) is also available on apprenticeship vacancies. The statistical data set provides information through a number of reports on the number of apprenticeship vacancies and traineeship opportunities for 2008/09 to 2014/15 year-to-date.

Level 1 and 2 English and maths: 16 to 18 students in 2013 to 2014

The DfE has produced [experimental statistics](#) on English and maths attainment by students aged 16 to 18 who did not achieve A* to C by the end of key stage 4. The main text reports on the national and institution tables, and the tables are available in full. The institution tables show how the DfE will set out a new methodology for reporting on students in 16 to 18 performance tables from 2016 and further information is available in the main document and technical note.

Skills Funding Agency

19+ funding: an update

The latest 2015/16 19+ funding [catalogue](#) was published on 1 October. On 24 September the Skills Funding Agency informed us that from September 2015 Applied General (AG) qualifications will now be automatically approved for 19+ funding eligibility alongside Tech Level qualifications. All existing AGs have been added to the catalogue and to the funding hub.

19+ funding eligibility will be confirmed for the 50 BTEC qualifications listed below, which have been submitted to DfE for recognition as either Applied General or Tech Level qualifications,

once the outcome of the DfE process is known (end of November, possibly early December). A moratorium is also now in place which means awarding organisations cannot make any further submissions for qualifications to be approved for 19+ funding. Automatically approved qualifications will still be added to the catalogue, and awarding bodies can still make submissions for 24+ advanced learning loan funding for level 3 and 4 qualifications. We will find out more about the new 19+ funding approval process in the next few months.

- BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care (QCF)
- BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Professional Patisserie and Confectionery (QCF)
- BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Professional Cookery (QCF)
- BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Professional Food and Beverage Service (QCF)
- BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Science
- BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Business
- BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
- BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Health and Social Care
- BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Information Technology
- BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Performing Arts
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Applied Science
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Business
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Music
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Performing Arts
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Art and Design
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Computing
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Creative Digital Media Production
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Engineering
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Applied Science
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Art and Design
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Computing
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Creative Digital Media Production
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Music
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Performing Arts
- BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Applied Science
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Art and Design
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Business
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Computing
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Creative Digital Media Production
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Engineering
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Health and Social Care
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Information Technology
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Music
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Performing Arts
- BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Sport

Register of Training Organisations

The [register of training organisations](#) opens again today and will close at 5.00pm on Friday, 13 November. Updated guidance will be added. The June [refresh](#) has been published.

Qualifications information guide

The SFA has published version 3.1 of the [Qualification Information Guide](#) which contains updates to the processes for the remainder of the 2015 to 2016 funding year. The guide provides information for colleges and other training organisations on the publicly funded offer and the 2014 to 2020 European Social Fund programme. It explains which qualifications can be approved for funding and the business rules used to approve them. It also contains information unit delivery, the innovation code and non-regulated provision.

Advanced learning loans: provider support pack

An [information pack](#) for colleges and other training organisations on advanced learning loans is available from the SFA. The pack has been developed to support providers already engaged and those interested in delivering loan funded provision and includes guidance on loans policy, provider delivery requirements, learner support, and data and systems.

Reminder: learning aim search guidance

A quick reminder that the SFA publish this useful [guide](#) on how to search the [funding hub](#).

Education Funding Agency

16 to 19 allocation data: 2015 to 2016 academic year

The EFA has published [allocation data](#) for 16 to 19 institutions funded by the EFA for the 2015 to 2016 academic year. It includes a document explaining how to use the spreadsheet and detail on various aspects of the funding represented.

Hefce

Employment outcomes of graduates

Hefce has released [research](#) showing that three-and-a-half years after leaving university 96.4 per cent of graduates were in employment and nearly 80 per cent were employed in professional jobs or undertaking further study. The report explores the transitions made by graduates during the stages of their early careers following graduation. The overall professional employment rate shows a substantial improvement 40 months after graduating, increasing from 64.1 per cent at six months to 77.8 per cent at 40 months.

Sutton Trust

Report into earning potential of the best apprenticeships

The Sutton Trust released the report [Levels of Success, the potential of UK apprenticeships](#) last week. It looks at the earning potential of apprenticeships versus degrees and the findings show that the very best apprenticeships (at level 5) result in greater lifetime earnings than degrees from non-Russell Group universities. It argues however that significant reform of the system is needed and that there are not enough of these best apprenticeships, with most being at level 2 and level 3.

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Steve Besley's Policy Watches

The latest from Steve Besley includes [Pocket Watch – Conference Lessons 2015](#), [Policy Eye – week ending October 9 2015](#), and [Policy Eye – week ending October 2 2015](#). These, and more, can be found on the [Pearson UK](#) website or [sign up](#) for policy watch email updates.

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