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Pearson UK – Funding News

9 September 2016

Funding News provides a regular round-up of 16-19, 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](#). Funding News can also be found on the [Pearson UK](#) website along with Funding Focus documents which provide quick summaries of recent funding developments, or particular aspects of the funding system.

This week we bring you news that the Autumn Statement will be on 23 November 2016, and we also, again, remind you where you can find all the funding regulations, and funding rates and formula documents, for 16-19, 19+ and apprenticeship funding for 2016/17, and bring you a reminder of the suite of documents published by the DfE on 12 August about how apprenticeship funding will work after the levy is introduced in April 2017 and the new funding systems for all apprenticeships is introduced in May 2017. We have produced brief summaries of some of these documents and provide links to these. In other news, the NAO has published their report into the apprenticeship reform programme to inform how the DfE manages the transition programme, and to evaluate the efforts made so far to increase the value achieved from the programme.

The budget

- Autumn Statement 2016 date confirmed

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The budget

Autumn Statement 2016 date confirmed

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, [announced yesterday](#) that he will present his first Autumn Statement to Parliament on 23 November 2016. The Autumn Statement is based on the latest forecasts from the Office for Budget Responsibility for the economy and public finances.

16-19 funding

Reminder: EFA funding guidance 2016/17

A reminder that the [EFA's 2016/17 funding guidance for 16-19 year-olds](#) is available and includes updated funding regulations to reflect recently published [sub-contracting guidance](#) and additional advice where schools or academies close sixth-form provision. The key documents are the:

- [Funding regulations for young people 2016/17](#)
- [Funding rates and formula for young people 2016/17](#)

Adult funding

Reminder: SFA funding rules 2016/17

A reminder that the SFA's 2016/17 funding guidance is available and is published in the following:

- [Skills Funding Agency: common funding rules](#)
- [Adult education budget funding rules](#)
- [Advanced learner loans funding rules](#)
- [Funding rules 2016 to 2017: summary of changes](#)
- [Funding rates and formula - 2016 to 2017](#)

Pearson: Monthly advanced learner loan submissions update

This [update](#) is published at the beginning of each month after Pearson has made the monthly submission for qualifications to be added to the list eligible for 19+ advanced learner loan funding. It lets you know which qualifications Pearson have recently submitted, and are currently submitting. It also includes information on the submission process, qualifications eligible for loans, the extension of the loan offer in 2016/17, and further information and links. If you wish to make a request for Pearson to submit a qualification for loan funding that isn't listed below, or isn't already confirmed for loan funding on the funding hub or in the SFA's Advanced learner loans qualifications catalogue, please email funding@pearson.com



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Apprenticeships

National Audit Office: Delivering value through the apprenticeships programme

On the 6 September the NAO published their [report](#) on apprenticeships to inform how the DfE manages the apprenticeship transition programme, and to evaluate the efforts made so far to increase the value achieved from the programme. The report covers three main areas: defining the programme's aims and measuring success; improving the quality of individual apprenticeships; and managing risks to apprenticeship quality and value.

The report sets out 11 key findings and concludes that when it comes to value for money, the DfE has not set out the collective impact that the programme is intended to achieve, how the increase in numbers can deliver the maximum gain in economic productivity, and how it will influence the mix of apprenticeships in order to deliver the most value. It has further to go in ensuring that all apprenticeships meet basic quality requirements, and that the quality of training is consistently high. It recommends the DfE 1) sets out the planned overall impact on productivity and growth, along with short-term key performance indicators to measure the programme's success, 2) ensures that the timescale for further development of Trailblazer standards remains realistic, and is well communicated to employers and providers, 3) improves the way it handles key risks, interdependencies and contingencies across the various elements of the programme, 4) does more to understand how employers, training providers and assessment bodies may respond to ongoing reforms, and develop robust ways of reacting quickly should instances of market abuse emerge, and 5) determine the respective roles of government bodies and the Institute for Apprenticeships.

Reminder: SFA funding guidance 2016/17

A reminder that the SFA's 2016/17 funding guidance is available and is published in the following:

- [Skills Funding Agency: common funding rules](#)
- [Apprenticeships: common funding rules](#)
- [Apprenticeship framework funding rules](#)
- [Apprenticeship standards funding rules](#)
- [Apprenticeship funding rules for higher education institutions](#)
- [Funding rules 2016 to 2017: summary of changes](#)
- [Funding rates and formula - 2016 to 2017](#)

Reminder: Changes to apprenticeship funding and the introduction of the levy

DfE has published the long-awaited proposals for apprenticeship funding once the levy is introduced. A [suite of documents](#) are available and summarised below:

1) *Proposals for apprenticeship funding from May 2017*

[Proposals for apprenticeship funding from May 2017](#) (23 pages) includes proposed funding bands for individual apprenticeship frameworks, and proposed funding bands for individual apprenticeship standards. Two Funding Focus documents are available:

- [Funding Focus – Apprenticeship funding after April 2017](#) summarises the funding proposals and Annex A looks at the proposed new funding bands for apprenticeships.
- [Funding Focus – Proposed allocation of frameworks and standards to new funding bands from May 2017](#) provides a full list of the new proposed funding bands so you see the new funding band your framework or standard has been allocated to.



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2) *A new register for apprenticeship providers, and a guide for employers*

[Proposals for a new Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers](#) (17 pages) explains how organisations will apply if they want to deliver apprenticeship training from May 2017. The [Employer-provider guide](#) (31 pages) explains what employers need to do to become an apprenticeship training provider. We have produced a Funding Focus summarising the proposals, and the employer-provider guide:

- [Funding Focus - Proposed allocation of frameworks and standards to new funding bands from May 2017](#)

3) *How the apprenticeship levy will work*

The DfE briefing on the [Apprenticeship levy: how it will work](#) has been updated and provides more information for levy paying employers. This Funding Focus summarises information about paying the levy, accessing funds from the levy, buying training, and employers who operate in England and in other parts of the UK.

- [Funding Focus - Apprenticeship levy](#)

4) *Further information about the new apprenticeship system*

DfE also released the following information about the new apprenticeship system:

- [Information on the apprenticeship levy](#) (9 pages) with data broken down by size and sector and the total apprenticeship budget.
- An [online levy calculator](#) which employers can use to estimate if they will pay the apprenticeship levy, how much an organisation will have available to spend on apprenticeships and how much the government will contribute towards the cost of training.
- The [DfE press release](#) which outlines what has been published.

Pearson policy and funding updates

The latest policy updates from Steve Besley include (see [Pearson Policy Watch](#) for these and more):

- [Policy Tracker – Keeping track of what happened in the world of education in August 2016](#)
- [Policy Eye - Highlights of week ending Friday 2 September 2016](#)

The latest Funding Focus guides include (see [Pearson Funding News](#) for these and more):

- [Pearson UK – Monthly advanced learner loan submissions update](#)
- [Funding Focus - Updated - BTEC Firsts and Nationals - Funding in 2016 17](#)
- [Funding Focus - Apprenticeship levy](#)
- [Funding Focus - Apprenticeship funding after April 2017](#)
- [Funding Focus - Proposed allocation of frameworks and standards to new funding bands from May 2017](#)
- [Funding Focus – Adult funding – Overview, and where to find out more](#)
- [Funding Focus – Advanced learner loans – Where to find out more](#)



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Pearson webinars on apprenticeship developments



Insight webinar series for apprenticeships

#4. A new approach to apprenticeship funding

> Register now - free

Pearson is running a series of webinars on changes to apprenticeship one of which will focus on changes to apprenticeship funding. The events are free to join and open to everyone. The first webinar was held the week before last and the second is now full, but you can sign up for future events and access recordings of all the events [here](#).

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