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## Pearson UK – Funding News

10 February 2017

*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.*

In Funding News this week the SFA has published the apprenticeship funding guidance that will apply from May 2017, and version 4 of the apprenticeship funding guidance that will apply for all apprenticeship starts from 1 August 2016 to 30 April 2017, and have confirmed that they are likely to reopen the RoATP in March. The EFA has added a video to their 16-19 funding overview which explains the allocations process, and in Pearson news we bring you news of the extension of the BTEC Nationals, a free Pearson webinar on apprenticeship end-point assessment, and the latest from Pearson Policy Watch.

### Apprenticeship funding

- Technical funding guidance
- Re-opening of register of apprenticeship training providers (RoATP)

### 16-19 funding

- The allocations process explained

### Pearson

- Extension of the BTEC QCF Nationals
- Free Pearson apprenticeship webinar: end point assessment – from theory into practice
- Policy updates



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## Apprenticeship funding

### Technical funding guidance

The SFA has updated the following apprenticeship funding guidance that will apply from **May 2017**:

- [Apprenticeship funding and performance management rules 2017 to 2018](#) which sets out the rules that will apply to all apprenticeship provision funded by the SFA.
- [Apprenticeship technical funding guide for starts from May 2017](#) which sets out the technical details of the funding system used to fund all apprenticeship provision funded by the SFA.

They have also published version 4 of the apprenticeship funding guidance that will apply for all apprenticeship starts from **1 August 2016 to 30 April 2017**, including the arrangements for funding carry-in learners:

- [Apprenticeships: common funding and performance-management rules 2016 to 2017](#) which sets out updated rules. Funding rules remain the same.

### Re-opening of register of apprenticeship training providers (RoATP)

The SFA will reopen the RoATP for new applicants and/or those who were unsuccessful in their initial application soon after the first planned publication of the first Register, probably in March. Exact timetables are still to be announced. The application process will follow the same format as the first opening.

## 16-19 funding

### The allocations process explained

A video explaining the allocations process for academic year 2017 to 2018 has been added to the EFA's webpage [16 to 19 Funding: how it works](#). The page provides a useful overview of how 16-19 funding is calculated and includes links to further information. It summarises the funding formula and study programmes, how the funding formula works, the student numbers element, the national funding rate element, the retention factor, programme cost weighting and disadvantage elements, the large programme uplift, the area cost allowance element, formula protection funding, maths and English condition of funding, funding outside the formula, qualifications funded for 16 to 19 year olds, and home educated students.

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### Extension of the BTEC QCF Nationals

Pearson will be extending the larger BTEC QCF Nationals in England until September 2018. This is to allow colleges and providers that enroll **16-19** students on smaller BTEC QCF Nationals in September 2017 (say, for example, because they are not sure at the outset whether the student wants to do two year qualification), to move them to the larger qualification by September 2018 if they need to. The extension is not for new starts in September 2018. The SFA haven't published the lists of qualifications that will be made eligible for 19-23 funding in 2017/18 as yet but we do not expect these qualifications to be made eligible for **19-23** funding in England in 2017/18 as the SFA policy is to only fund qualifications on 16-19



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performance measures for 19-23 funding in 2017/18. These qualifications will not be on performance measures.

The extensions need to go through Ofqual and then need to be approved by the DfE, and the EFA for funding. We have no reason to think these won't be approved but it will take a while before they show on the systems.

We will be extending the BTEC QCF Nationals for longer in sectors where we have not redeveloped the qualifications on to the new framework, and in Wales and Northern Ireland. The detail of all this will shortly be on our website and we will bring you links as soon as possible.

## [Free Pearson apprenticeship webinar: end point assessment – from theory into practice](#)

The next webinar in the Pearson series covers one of the biggest changes in the new Apprenticeships; end point assessment (EPA). It will be held on Thursday 2 March 2017 from 4.00pm - 5.00pm (we have another running on Thursday 23 February 2017 but this is now full). Our expert speakers will provide you with an overview of EPA, what is involved, and some specific examples of standards and assessment models to enable you to continue to deliver apprenticeships with confidence. We'll also cover Pearson's role as a registered assessment organisation for EPA and the steps we're taking to make the new assessment process as seamless as possible for our customers. You can register for the webinar [here](#).

## Policy updates

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

- [Policy Eye - Highlights of week ending Friday 3 February 2017](#): University admissions, apprenticeships and structural developments.
- [Policy Eye - Highlights of week ending Friday 27 January 2017](#): The government's Industrial Strategy, school funding and apprenticeships top the week's news.
- [Policy Tracker – Keeping track of what happened in the world of education in January 2017](#): 20 principles for negotiating Brexit, 10 'pillars' of a new Industrial Strategy, 6 guiding principles for primary assessment, 5 steps for tackling mental health, 18% of schools in deficit. 2017 is beginning to take shape.

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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.*