

Annex L: Price groups

This annex explains how years of programme of study should be mapped to price groups for the purposes of the Higher Education in Further Education: Students survey 2014-15 (HEIFES14), including guidance on the special cases of education and sandwich years-out.

1. For higher education institutions, the department or departments in which a student undertakes activity defines the cost of the activity. This means, for example, that a student on a science degree who is taught by both the science and business studies departments will be funded at a composite rate somewhere between the science and business studies rates. The rate depends on the balance of activity in each department. Data at this level are not available for further education colleges. For colleges, we use the mapping between Learning Directory Classification System (LDCS) codes and price groups shown in the tables below. A full list of LDCS codes and associated subject descriptions is available at www.hefce.ac.uk/data/datacollection/heifes/ under 'Frequently asked questions'.

LDCS codes (including all sub-levels of the hierarchy)	Price group(s)
A	D
B	D
C (except CE)	C1
CE	Media studies
D (except DC)	D
DC	C1
E	D
F (except FN.1, FN.3, FN.4, FN.5, FN.7, FN.8, FN.9)	D
FN.1, FN.3, FN.4, FN.5, FN.7, FN.8, FN.9	C2
G*	C2 or D
H	D
J (except JA.22, JA.23, JA.32, JA.33, JA.34, JA.5, JA.7, JA.8, JD, JE)	C1
JA.22, JA.23, JA.32, JA.33, JA.34, JA.5, JA.7, JA.8, JD, JE	D
K (except KB, KC)	Media studies
KB, KC	D
L (except LF, LG)	C1

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LDCS codes (including all sub-levels of the hierarchy)	Price group(s)
LF, LG	D
M	Sports science and leisure studies
N (except NG, NK, NL, NM, NN)	C2
NG, NK, NN	D
NL, NM	Sports science and leisure studies
P (except PA, PB, PC.1, PC.5, PE.6, PE.7, PF.1, PF.2, PG.1, PG.2)	C2
PB, PC.1, PC.5, PE.6, PE.7, PF.1, PF.2, PG.1, PG.2	B
PA	D
Q (except QA.3, QB, QH, QJ)	C2
QA.3, QH.6	B
QB, QH.1, QH.2, QH.3, QH.4, QH.5, QH.7, QH.8, QH.9, QJ	D
R (except RA.3, RA.5, RA.6, RB, RF.4, RG)	B
RA.3, RA.5, RA.6, RB, RF.4, RG	C2
S (except SE, SJ.5, SM, SN.3, SN.4, SN.6, SP, SQ)	B
SE	C1
SN.3, SN.4, SN.6, SQ	C2
SJ.5, SM, SP	D
T (except TC.44, TC.5, TC.6, TF, TK, TL, TM)	C2
TK, TL, TM	B
TC.44, TC.5, TC.6, TF	D
U	D
V (except VE, VF.1, VF.2, VF.3, VF.4, VF.5, VF.6, VG)	D
VE, VF.4, VG	B
VF.1, VF.2, VF.3, VF.5, VF.6	C1
W (except WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WG, WM)	C1
WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WG	B
WM	C2
X (except XA.13, XA.32, XN, XS)	B

LDCS codes (including all sub-levels of the hierarchy)	Price group(s)
XA.13, XA.32, XN, XS	C2
Y	B
Z (except ZX.3, ZX.4, ZX.5)	C2
ZX.3, ZX.4, ZX.5	D

* LDCS code G (education) can, depending on the course, be in either price group C2 or D (see paragraphs 5 to 8 of this annex).

Price group	Learning Directory Classification System codes (including all sub-levels of the hierarchy)
B	PB, PC.1, PC.5, PE.6, PE.7, PF.1, PF.2, PG.1, PG.2, QA.3, QH.6, R (except RA.3, RA.5, RA.6, RB, RF.4, RG), S (except SE, SJ.5, SM, SN.3, SN.4, SN.6, SP, SQ), TK, TL, TM, VE, VF.4, VG, WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WG, X (except XA.13, XA.32, XN, XS), Y
C1	C (except CE), DC, J (except JA.22, JA.23, JA.32, JA.33, JA.34, JA.5, JA.7, JA.8, JD, JE), L (except LF, LG), SE, VF.1, VF.2, VF.3, VF.5, VF.6, W (except WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WG, WM)
C2	FN.1, FN.3, FN.4, FN.5, FN.7, FN.8, FN.9, G*, N (except NG, NK, NL, NM, NN), P (except PA, PB, PC.1, PC.5, PE.6, PE.7, PF.1, PF.2, PG.1, PG.2), Q (except QA.3, QB, QH, QJ), RA.3, RA.5, RA.6, RB, RF.4, RG, SN.3, SN.4, SN.6, SQ, T (except TC.44, TC.5, TC.6, TF, TK, TL, TM), WM, XA.13, XA.32, XN, XS, Z (except ZX.3, ZX.4, ZX.5)
D	A, B, D (except DC), E, F (except FN.1, FN.3, FN.4, FN.5, FN.7, FN.8, FN.9), G*, H, JA.22, JA.23, JA.32, JA.33, JA.34, JA.5, JA.7, JA.8, JD, JE, KB, KC, LF, LG, NG, NK, NN, PA, QB, QH.1, QH.2, QH.3, QH.4, QH.5, QH.7, QH.8, QH.9, QJ, SJ.5, SM, SP, TC.44, TC.5, TC.6, TF, U, V (except VE, VF.1, VF.2, VF.3, VF.4, VF.5, VF.6, VG), ZX.3, ZX.4, ZX.5
Media studies	CE, K (except KB, KC),
Sports science and leisure studies	M, NL, NM

* LDCS code G (education) can, depending on the course, be in either price group C2 or D (see paragraphs 5 to 8 of this annex).

2. The Skills Funding Agency's learning aims search facility on the Information Management Hub (<https://hub.imservices.org.uk/Learning%20Aims/Pages/default.aspx>) returns up to three LDCS codes under the 'Other information' tab 'Shared information' section for each learning aim. If there is no LDCS code for a particular course, or the

college thinks that the wrong LDCS code has been assigned, the college should e-mail heifes@hefce.ac.uk as soon as possible (ideally as soon as the course has been added to the Hub), providing us with the learning aim reference, learning aim title, awarding body, LDCS codes as displayed on the learning aims search (where present) and up to three main subject areas of the course in question. We will then liaise with the Skills Funding Agency on the college's behalf.

3. Some qualifications contain study in two distinct subject areas, for example a chemistry and business course. Where the qualification has more than one LDCS code on the Skills Funding Agency's learning aims search, the student should be split between the relevant price groups in proportion to the split between each subject for the course as a whole.

Special cases

Sandwich years-out

4. Regardless of the LDCS code of the course, students on a sandwich year-out should be recorded in price group C2.

ITT, INSET and other education students

5. Students on initial teacher training (ITT) courses, whether or not leading to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), should be entirely attributed to price group C2, irrespective of the subject of their qualification aim. All home and European Union (EU) students on ITT courses leading to QTS should be reported as non-fundable.

6. INSET courses are defined as courses for which the primary (but not necessarily the only) purpose is to improve the effectiveness of teachers, lecturers or trainers. Students who do not hold QTS but are studying for an ITT qualification via an INSET course should be recorded in price group C2. Other students on INSET courses should be attributed to a price group according to the subject of qualification aim. Home and EU students holding QTS on INSET courses should be returned as non-fundable.

7. Students studying for a foundation degree to become a teaching assistant should be returned in price group C2.

8. All other activity with LDCS code G should be returned in price group D.