Funding Information System (FIS) Release Guide

Document Details	
Document Type:	**Release guide**
Creation Date:	**27/10/2014**
Document Version:	**1.12**

Change to this document

Version	Date	Changes made
V1.0	20/05/2014	Version to support the release of software for funding year 2014/15
V1.1	23/05/2014	2013/14 Component Set Guidance updated for component sets 18 and 19
V1.2	28/07/2014	Version to support new release made available on 28/07/2014
V1.3	31/07/2014	Corrections to v1.2 and additional info
V1.4	18/08/2014	Version to support new release made available on 21/08/2014
V1.5	11/09/2014	Version to support new 2013/14 Component Set release made available on 05/08/2014
V1.6	18/09/2014	Version to support 2014 to 2015 Component Set 4
V1.7	26/09/2014	Updated the table in section 4 to include some more references to Known issues that were fixed as part of component set 4
V1.8	02/10/2014	Updated to support new 2014/15 Component Set 005 release made available on 02/10/2014
V1.9	09/10/2014	Updated to support new 2013/14 Component Set 022 release made available on 09/10/2014
V1.10	10/10/2014	Updated to support new 2013/14 Component Set 023 release made available on 10/10/2014
V1.11	21/10/2014	Updated to support new 2014/15 Component Set 006 release
V1.12	27/10/2014	Additional info added regarding new reports in Component Set 006

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1 Purpose

This document provides a guide to supplement the release of the Funding Information System (FIS) version. It describes the changes and other notable information about the FIS application Framework and Component Sets across all Funding Years for which FIS is active.

The framework of the FIS application is the 'shell' application into which component sets and resource data can be imported and selected to give it the functionality for a specific funding year.

This document does not provide user guidance for the whole application. Please see the relevant documentation on FIS on GOV.UK for further information (full URL shown in section 4 of this document).

2 User advice

Users should be aware of the following:

- Update FIS with the latest reference data sets for funding year 2014/15 before processing data

- The latest 2014/15 Component Set has not been fully tested within a Windows 8 or 8.1 environments; however, we are not aware of any issues that currently arise specifically from using FIS with those operating systems. Please see section 7 below for instructions on how to report any associated issues

- FIS and the latest 2014/15 Component Sets have only been tested using the standard setup, with default pre-requisite software (SQL Express 2012 and .NET 4.5). Any deviations from this setup have not been tested and as a result are un-supported. Please see section 7 below for instructions on how to report any associated issues.

3 FIS Framework

The FIS Framework implemented for Funding Year 2014 to 2015 has been changed and now has a slightly different user interface and improved functionality. These changes are described in the following table:

ID	Changes	Fixes	Release Date
1.2.30.16367	Functionality altered to reflect the introduction of Funding year 2014/15 • Available updates are shown in groups for Funding years 2013/14 and 2014/15. Front end changes: • Collection, Component Set, Reference Data Set and Workspace location selection has been moved to menu item 'Tools/Dataset and Reference' • Collection, Component Set and Data Sets versions are shown in front screen • Progress bars now feature during procedure processing	Access MDB export timings have been improved – Please note this applies to 2014/15 functionality only.	21/05/2014

4 2014/15 Component Set

Component Set version	Changes	Release Date

006	Bug fixes for known issues 4.27, 4.32, 4.33
	See the FIS Funding Year 2014 to 2015 Known Issues document for further details
	New Funding Reports:
	   • SFA Funding Claim Report
	   • Summary of SFA Funding Report
	   • PFR 24+ ALLB Occupancy Report
	   • SFA Summary of FM35 by Learner Report
		27/10/2014

005	Bug fix for known issue 4.24 which wasn't fully resolved in Component Set 004. Fix for Known Issue 4.28. See the FIS Funding Year 2014 to 2015 Known Issues document for further details	02/10/2014
004	Bug fixes. Known Issues: 4.10, 4.16, 4.17, 4.18, 4.21, 4.22 , 4.24 and 4.25 See the FIS Funding Year 2014 to 2015 Known Issues document for further details	18/09/2014
003	First main release for academic year 2014 to 2015. Updated Validation Rules, Funding Calculations and Derived Variables modules. Inclusion of Amalgamation and PFR reports. Additional bug fixes (see 2014 to 2015 Known Issues)	21/08/2014
002	Updates to the validation rules, funding and derived variables calculations. Additional Bug fixes (See the FIS Funding Year 2014 to 2015 Known Issues document for further details)	30/07/2014
001	Initial version	21/05/2014

The component set with the highest version number will always be the latest to be made available. Unless there is a relevant Known Issue, users are advised to select this version when processing ILR data to achieve the most up to date results from FIS.

Procedures currently available for 2014 to 2015:
• Amalgamate

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- Import and Validate an ILR Submission
- Perform funding calculations
- Export ILR data to CSV
- Export ILR data to an Access database
- Rule Violations report
- Rule Violations report with defaults
- Rule Violations report as CSV
- Rule Violations Summary report
- Rule Violations Summary report with Defaults
- Rule Violations Summary report as CSV
- EFA Funding Claim report
- Indicative PFR Summary Report
- Indicative 2014/15 PFR Occupancy Report
- EFA English and Maths report

Please consult the FIS User Guidance and Installation Guidance documents for further advice. We also recommend that users consult the FIS Known Issues document for further information about defects and issues.

5 2013/14 Component Set

Component Set version	Changes	Release Date
23	Change to Postcode_07 and Postcode_08 to implement further fixes. These rules will now accept both upper and lower case text for alphabetic elements of postcodes recorded within the Learner Contact entity.	10/10/2014
22	Bug fix: Fixes have been made to the Validation Rules Postcode_07 and Postcode_08 which validate postcodes recorded within the Learner Contact fields. They are now functioning as stated in the ILR Validation Rule Specification for Funding Year 2013/14. • The validation rule Postcode_07 was only functional in FIS, it has now been fixed so that it is also a Hub ILR validation rule. This was presenting inconsistencies between both systems. • The validation rule Postcode_08 did not trigger when four characters had been recorded for the inward part (the second part) of postcodes. It now checks all recorded characters.	09/10/2014
21	Bug Fix: • Validation Rule R56	05/09/2014
20	Bug fixes: • Summary of Loans Bursary Funding by Learner report fix (Known Issue 5.4.13) • Export to Access fix. This function was previously failing in some circumstances.	20/08/2014
19	Missing funding amounts for 7 learner records during the reports stage has been fixed. This issue occurred in component sets 17 and 18. Further guidance appears in the Known Issues document issue number 5.4.14.	23/05/2014
18	Fix implemented for a small number of cases where the funding calculation was generating less funding than it should in the following cases: • aim started before 1 August 2013	20/05/2014

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	- a Funding Adjustment for Prior Learning value of less than 100% has been entered - aim is not a Restart - aim was funded through Funding Model 45 last year and was 'ER Other' or an Apprenticeship Main Aim. That is, the subset of aims which would have generated achievement funding if we were still using last year's methodology. This includes some Classroom provision..	
17	IMPORTANT: A number of issues have been identified with this component set, the most severe of which is documented in Known issue 5.4.16. As a consequence, we would encourage providers to not use this component set and revert to using component set 16 instead.	14/05/2014
16	An issue which prevented the export of Access Mdb files was identified, this has now been fixed.	30/04/2014
15	- FIS was taking too long to amalgamate ILR Files. It was observed that in some cases, it was taking as long as 20 hours to amalgamate two files. This issue has now been fixed. - FIS was failing on amalgamation when amalgamating large files (over 300MB combined). This issue has been fixed. - FIS was failing on creating/ amending ILRs within FIS using "Create ILR Submission via Form Entry" procedure. This issue has been fixed.	23/04/2014
14	Same as for component set 15	23/04/2014
13	The amalgamation process was placing PartnerUKPRN element in the wrong order causing a Schema Invalid file to be exported from FIS.	26/03/2014
12	A number of issues identified and included in the Known Issues document, have now been fixed in Component Set 012.	26/03/2014

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Procedures available for Funding Year 2013 to 2014:

- Create ILR Submission via Form Entry'
- Import (amalgamate) and validate'
- Perform Funding and DV Calculations
- Export ILR data to an Access database
- Export valid ILR submission file'
- Export Learners (LRS Learner Verification)
- Import Learner Verification result file(s)
- View Learner Data
- Rule Violations report
- Rule Violations Summary report
- Amalgamation Summary Report
- Unique Learner Verification Report
- Apprenticeship Detailed Learner and Aim Funding Report
- EFA Funding Claim Report
- EFA 16-19 Summary of Funding by Student (Invalid Report
- EFA 16-19 Summary of Funding by Student (Valid)Report
- Indicative PFR 24+ Advanced Learning Loans Bursary Occupancy Report
- Indicative 2013/14 PFR Occupancy Report*
- Indicative 2013/14 PFR Summary Report
- Non-Apprenticeship Detailed Learner and Aim Funding Report
- Summary of Loan Bursary Funding by Learner Report
- Summary of Loans Bursary Funding Report
- Summary of Skills Funding Agency Funding by Learner Report

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- Summary of Skills Funding Agency Funding Report

Please consult the FIS User Guidance and Installation Guidance documents for further advice. We also recommend that users consult the FIS Known Issues document for further information about defects and issues.

6 Known Issues

Users should be aware that this release still has outstanding issues that are detailed in the 'Active' section of the known issues document which is available from the following link:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/individualised-learner-record-ilr-check-that-data-is-accurate

7 Feedback

If you have a question regarding FIS Component Sets and functionality or LARS data then please contact the following Service Desk:

    Email: servicedesk@sfa.bis.gov.uk
    Telephone: 0370 2670001

Before reporting issues, please ensure that you are using the latest available versions of the FIS components and data sets.