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Skills Funding
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Guidance

2014 annual review of the qualifications offer: qualifications with no or low demand

Updated 5 February 2015

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Background

1.

1. In January 2015, following our annual review of qualifications, we will publish the initial qualifications offer for the funding year 2015 to 2016. The offer is the list of qualifications that colleges and training organisations can deliver through the employer ownership programme, 24+ advanced learning loans, offender learning and skills service (OLASS), and Adult Skills Budget (ASB).
2. Please note that this does not relate to the use or availability of qualifications within an apprenticeship framework. If a qualification is in an apprenticeship framework it will continue to be available for delivery as part of that framework, regardless of demand outside of the apprenticeship.
3. In our annual review of qualifications, we review the existing offer and identify qualifications with no or low demand. The outcome of the review does not affect funding for your continuing learners enrolled before 1 August 2015.

2.

No demand

1. These are qualifications that we approved in the qualifications offer on or before 1 August 2012 but for which no college or training organisation has had any publicly-funded post-19 enrolments. We will not include these qualifications in the offer.
2. To give the sector notice of this, we have issued a list of 691 qualifications with no demand that will not be available for new starts from 1 August 2015. For the full list, please refer to the [qualifications approved for funding section](#) of our website.

3.

Low demand

1. These are qualifications that have had fewer than 100 publicly-funded enrolments in each of the funding years 2012 to 2013 and 2013 to 2014.
2. We have identified 972 qualifications in this category and intend to remove these qualifications from the offer. For the full list, please refer to the [qualifications approved for funding section](#) of our website.
3. We recognise that we may need to continue funding new starts for certain qualifications with low demand. For this reason we have set out a process to allow awarding organisations to notify us, with supporting evidence, about qualifications with low enrolments that they believe we should continue to fund. This process starts on Wednesday, 5 November and closes at 5.00pm on Thursday, 4 December 2014.
4. Colleges and training organisations should notify their awarding organisation if they believe a qualification with low demand should still be available for new starts in the funding year 2015 to 2016. The awarding organisation can then collate evidence and complete a single form for each qualification. This will avoid the scenario of multiple organisations all completing separate forms for the same qualification.
5. The deadline for awarding organisations to submit forms to us as part of this process is 5.00pm on Thursday, 4 December 2014. Our guidance for awarding organisations and the forms for them to use is available on the [qualifications approved for public funding section](#) of our website.
6. Please note that this only relates to public funding for new starts for adult learners (those aged 19 or older) in England in 2015 to 2016. A learner who enrolls before 1 August 2015 on a qualification which will have funding withdrawn in the funding year 2015 to 2016 will still receive support to complete their qualification.

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