

Skills Funding Agency

### The Register of Apprentice Assessment Organisations

An introduction to the Register and the criteria for entry

August 2016



# Introduction to the Register

We have created the Register of Apprentice Assessment Organisations (the Register) for employers.

It is a list of organisations that have been assessed as being suitable to conduct independent end-point assessment of apprentices <u>and</u> be in receipt of public funds.

Only organisations on the Register can be selected to undertake the endpoint assessment of apprentices.



# How the Register will assist employers

Employers will use the Register to select an organisation to undertake end-point assessment for them. The lead training provider will contract with the end-point assessment organisation, on behalf of the employer.

Employers determine which organisation they will select and the process for selection.

We have a guide for employers so the purpose of the Register is clear.



## What is end-point assessment?

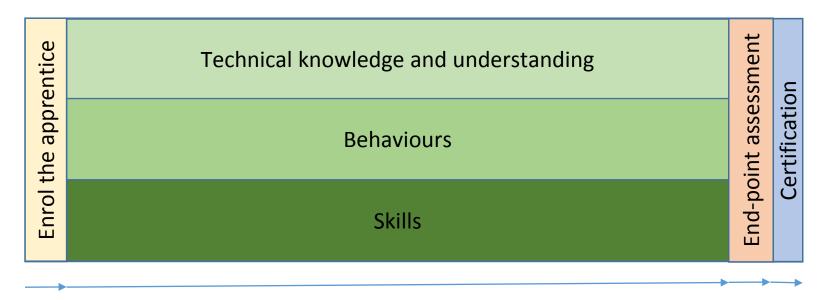
End-point assessment is separate to any qualifications or other assessment that the apprentice may undertake during training.

Assessments will either be delivered by an independent third party or in such a way that no party who has been involved in delivery of the apprenticeship can make the sole decision on competence and passing the end-point assessment.



## How end-point assessment works

Each Standard has different content. But all of them have common elements, that must take place in sequence.



The apprentice **cannot** complete and achieve their apprenticeship without passing the end-point assessment.



# The end-point assessment process

End-point assessment involves an organisation:

- conducting synoptic and independent end-point assessment of apprentices
- adhering to any specific arrangements or additional criteria set out in the assessment plan
- quality assuring the end-point assessments they deliver
- identifying and recording when the apprentice has passed the end-point assessment process
- adhering to external quality assurance requirements



The end-point assessment organisation

An end-point assessment organisation <u>must</u>:

- have relevant occupational experience of the standard
- have relevant assessment experience and expertise
- provide Quality Assurance of their activity

An end-point assessment organisation <u>cannot</u>:

- deliver the learning elements to the same apprentice
- deliver end-point assessment to non-apprentices



#### **Application process**

The list of assessment plans we accept applications against is available with our published guidance document.

Once an assessment plan is published it can be included in the Register application process

The Register is always open to new applications.

The Register is not part of our procurement for services. The Agency will not be entering into a contract with organisations on the Register.

#### Making an application



We use the Bravo Solution portal for this process as it is the most suitable platform we have for managing the application process securely and efficiently.

The Register is always open to applications. We take any new applications for review at the end of each month.

Organisations can apply at any time and are not limited to the number of applications they can make.

The clearer the assessment plan in terms of end-point assessment and the expectations of the end-point assessment organisation the more informed applications we receive.



#### **Readiness to apply**

Skills Funding Agency

Before applying make sure you can evidence:

- up-to-date occupational experience and competence in one or more of the occupational areas covered by the standard and assessment plan
- the capacity and capability to deliver end-point assessment in one or more of the occupational areas covered by the standard, including meeting requirements around independence of assessment
- internal quality assurance procedures in place in relation to end-point assessment

Applicants must be legal entities. This does not preclude applicants working with other organisations to deliver end-point assessment offer.



#### The application form

The application has four sets of questions. Each one gives us information about the applicant and their suitability to be an end-point assessment organisation:

Information about the organisation	Their financial governance & Financial self- assessment	The organisations occupational capacity & capability	The organisations assessment capacity & capability
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#### **Publication**

• We update it when new organisations are approved:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/register-of-apprenticeassessment-organisations

- We publish each organisation's name, contact details and a summary of information taken from the application.
- We can share with an employer other information from the application, if they request it to support their selection process.
- We may remove an organisation from the Register if we have evidence that they no longer meet the Register's requirements.



#### **Further information**

More detailed descriptions of the role of the end-point assessment organisation and the application process are available here:

https://skillsfundingagency.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml

The Funding Rules for Trailblazer apprenticeships can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-funding-rules-2015-to-2016

Information on the Trailblazer process and individual Standards and their

Assessment Plans can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/apprenticeship-standards

We have a message function within the Register section of the Bravo Solution portal for applicants to ask questions about the process.