



Education
Funding
Agency

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Guidance

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1.

Action: budget forecast return due by 31 July 2016

This is the final reminder that the deadline for submitting your [budget forecast returns](#) is 31 July 2016.

All academy trusts open on or before 31 March 2016 must submit their budget forecast return for the 2016 to 2017 academic year by 31 July 2016 using the academies budget forecast online form.

The only exceptions to this are:

- if a new academy joins an existing multi-academy trust (MAT) on or after the submission deadline of 31 July 2016, then a separate return for that academy will be required
- for trusts opening between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017, the deadline is either 6 weeks following receipt of their funding letter or 31 July 2016, whichever is the later

A [guide to completing and submitting your 2016 to 2017 budget forecast return](#) and a [training video](#) are available alongside a [recording of our webinar](#) held on 10 June 2016.

2.

Information: August accounts return

We expect to issue the 2015 to 2016 accounts return in early October 2016.

Previous versions of the accounts return should not be used for the 2015 to 2016 reporting period. Further communications will follow.

3.

Information: online videos on the academies financial framework

Academy trusts can now access [presentations on the recent updates to the Academies Financial Handbook and the Accounts Direction](#) [↗](#) including [transition to FRS102](#) [↗](#).

We have also provided [information on accounting for academies moving between academy trusts](#) [↗](#).

4.

Information: learning difficulty assessments (LDAs) and high needs funding for 2016 to 2017 academic year

Learning difficulty assessments (LDAs) will cease to have statutory basis from 1 September 2016. In order to avoid any disruption to 19-25 year old students who have a LDA, and are currently funded as high needs students, our [high needs funding: operational guide 2016 to 2017](#) has been updated to describe the specific circumstances where they will continue to be eligible for high needs funding.

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