



First edition of the 2014 to 2015 publicly funded qualifications offer

Statement

1. We have published the first edition of the simplified funding rates catalogue for 2014 to 2015. The catalogue includes the regulated qualifications approved for public funding for new starts in 2014 to 2015.
2. We have introduced a new process and set of business rules for approving qualifications for public funding. These are summarised in our [qualifications information guide for 2014 to 2015](#) .
3. The new process and business rules for approving qualifications has resulted in a more streamlined qualifications offer and there are some qualifications that were approved for funding in 2013 to 2014 which are not approved in 2014 to 2015.
4. This includes vocational qualifications at level 2 to 4, which do not meet the new 15 credit threshold, and vocational qualifications at level 1 which have a purpose of confirming occupational competence. We have published a list of each of these groups of qualifications and we are inviting the awarding organisations who own these qualifications to contact us if they wish us to consider including these qualifications in the 2014 to 2015 qualifications offer. Full details of these qualifications, and the process by which awarding organisations can ask us to consider funding these by exception, are available on the [qualifications approved for public funding page](#) on our website.

5. There are two groups of qualifications which have not been added to the offer yet, but will be added in due course. These are:

1) Access to HE Diplomas – these qualifications are currently being redesigned, and the qualifications which meet the [new specification](#) will be added to the offer once they are recognised by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). QAA recognition can only be confirmed when a licensed Access Validating Agency (AVA) has approved the Access to HE Diploma and the AVA has added details to [QAA's database of Access to HE Diplomas](#). We have provided [further information on this topic](#), and in particular, its impact on learners applying for 24+advanced learning loans for an Access to HE Diploma.

2) We are currently reviewing QCF English and maths qualifications. Once our review concludes in April 2014 we will confirm the 2014 to 2015 offer for these qualifications.