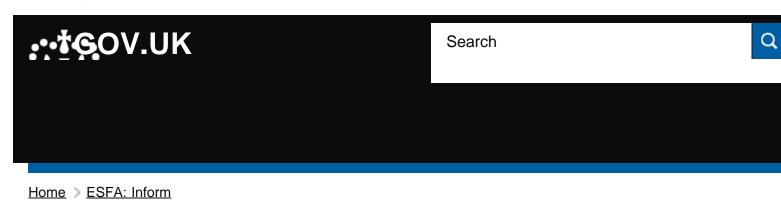
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Education & Skills Funding Agency

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Individualised learner record (ILR): R07

Action required

The ILR R07 data collection for the 2017 to 2018 funding year is now open and will close at 6pm on Tuesday, 6 March. As always, we recommend that you submit your data as early as possible and that you review your validation and funding reports that are available to you on the hub.

If you need to submit an Earnings Adjustment Statement (EAS) and you do not have access to this on the Data Returns tab in the Hub, please email our <u>Service Desk</u> or call us on 0370 267 0001 to request this.

May 2017 to December 2017 non levy apprenticeships rundown extension – starts to March 2018

Action required

The extensions and carry-in variations for the May to December non-levy apprenticeships have now been issued. If we have informed you in your recent apprenticeships allocations letter that you have a rundown extension to March 2018, we have set up a new Learning Delivery Monitoring (LDM) code for you to record new starts between 1st January 2018 and 31st March 2018. You must use LDM code 358 to record delivery under your run-down extension. Please refer to the <u>ILR specification</u> for more information about using LDM codes. You must not use this LDM code for procured non-levy apprenticeships or if you have not been informed you have a rundown extension.

Hub corner

For information

In R06 we processed 6,593 files from 1,594 providers. Over 615 providers submitted their first R06 file in the last 3 days of the collection window with 1,504 ILR files submitted on the last day of the collection window, over 22% of the total files submitted during the entire collection window.

ILR specification for 2018 to 2019: version 1

For information

The first version of ILR specification for 2018 to 2019 has now been published and is available to view on <u>GOV.UK</u>.

Funding monitoring reports

For information

We have published the latest set of funding monitoring reports on the Hub following the R06 ILR data submission. We have made the following improvements to the reports:

- the 'funding line type' summary has been reinstated
- a new 'total investigated aims' figure replaces 'total submitted aims', this will make the proportion of errors more accurate and resolves issues caused by data in reports 3 and 25 when calculating this figure
- we have included advanced learner loans funding paid by the Student Loans Company in 2017 to 2018 funding year in all relevant reports
- we have included advanced learner loans data in reports 5, 6 and 7
- we have removed level 4 qualifications from report 28, this report only identifies advanced learner loans for level 3 qualifications as level 4 qualifications do not apply to the funding rules for this report
- following the R05 ILR submission, we contacted some providers advising them that data corrections are required or to supply evidence of eligibility - if you received one of these letters, you must correct data or provide evidence by the deadlines in the letters

If you have not received a letter, please continue to review these reports monthly and correct any data errors where appropriate.

If you have any queries about the data in your reports, please contact the <u>Service Desk</u>. Please also review the <u>user guide</u> for the reports, as this contains information on how we identify records and how to correct data errors.

Transferring apprenticeship levy funds

For information

From April 2018 employers who pay the apprenticeship levy will be able to transfer apprenticeship funds to other organisations to pay for their apprenticeship training and assessment. They will be able to transfer up to a maximum of 10% of their annual funds; this will be calculated from the total amount of levy declared during the previous tax year.

Transfers are being brought in as a flexibility in the system in response to employer demand and should lead to the creation of more apprenticeship starts, allowing larger employers to spend some of their funding to help upskill the workforce of another employer, perhaps in their supply chain.

Levy-paying employers will be able to transfer funds to any employer and will have to agree the apprenticeships that are being funded by a transfer with the employer receiving the funds. Employers receiving transferred funds will only be able to use them to pay for training and assessment for apprenticeship standards and the transfer must cover the cost in full.

For more information go to the <u>transferring apprenticeship service funds</u> page on GOV.UK, take a look at this <u>short video</u> and read this blog on <u>5 tips for employers to get ready for transfers</u>.

Please share these resources with employers so that they are made aware of transfers and how to prepare for them.

If you have any queries about the apprenticeship service, please call the National Contact Centre helpline on 08000 150 600 or email <u>helpdesk@manage-apprenticeships.service.gov.uk</u>.

FE Connect Q&A

For information

Developers from the apprenticeship service recently hosted a <u>Q&A on FE Connect</u> on data returns, funding reports and use of the employer and provider portal. The response to the Q&A has been really positive with over 2,500 views and more than 20 participants posting around 60 queries and comments.

The biggest themes that came out were a need for improved reporting, more visibility of what is coming in the future and a channel to be able to feed in ideas and suggest improvements.

Our developers are currently working on better reporting and the functionality for employers to download transactions, with the latter due to be available in the next few weeks. We have shared an <u>updated</u>

<u>roadmap</u> that shows the planned developments for the service against a timeline into April 2019 and we encourage training providers to follow our social media channels so that they can keep up to date with the very latest developments.

We would like to thank all the training providers that took part for their detailed and thoughtful feedback on the service – your suggestions have been fed back to the whole team within the apprenticeship service and we are working on a blog post to summarise and respond to the bigger picture themes that were raised.

Final Qualification Achievement Rates (QAR) for 2016 to 2017

For information

We will publish the final QAR data for 2016 to 2017 on Thursday 22 March 2018 on both the HUB and through the Business Intelligence (BI) dashboards. The BI dashboards will include both the national and provider type QARs for benchmarking your rates.

We will publish the National Achievement Rate Tables for 2016 to 2017 on Thursday, 22 March at 9:30am. If you have any questions, please contact the <u>Service Desk</u>.

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