

Confirmed Changes to the Individualised Learner Record for 2007/08

Purpose

- 1 This paper contains a summary of the changes that will be made to the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) for 2007/08. The full 2007/08 ILR specification will be published on 5 March 2007.

Summary

- 2 There were 107 requests for change to the ILR for 2007/08. Staff in the LSC data specification team acting as the secretariat of the Information Authority put these changes through a challenge process to ensure that:
 - they were well defined;
 - supported by a good business case, and;
 - supported key FE sector targets and goals, or agenda for change.
- 3 As a result of the challenge process 28 changes were taken forward and were presented to the Information Authority board at its meeting on 18 December. It approved 22 of these and asked the secretariat to do further work on 6 and report back to it on them in late January.
- 4 The secretariat met with the interim chairman of the Information Authority board on 24 January 2007 to report on the further work and agree the changes to the specification for 2007/08. These changes were subsequently circulated to the rest of the board for comment. The board was content with them.
- 5 The board approved 23 changes these involve:
 - one change to collection arrangements
 - three new fields;
 - one removed field;
 - changes to the definition of three fields;
 - 21 code changes in 11 existing fields.
- 6 These changes are summarised below.

Change to collection arrangements for Train to Gain

Collection of Train to Gain

- 7 From 2007/08 all Train to Gain data will be collected through the WBL ILR route on a monthly basis.

- 8 In 2006/07 the preferred route for Train to Gain was a WBL format ILR and the majority of Train to Gain providers including most FE providers sent data for Train to Gain learners through this route.
- 9 The FE route with 3 to 5 collections a year does not fully support Train to Gain requirements. Consequently for 2007/08 Train to Gain data will be collected through the WBL route only.

Changes to fields

Employment status fields

- 10 The Employment status on last day of learning field, field L38, will be withdrawn and replaced with a new field to collect current employment status. A field to collect date of change of employment status will also be added.
- 11 These fields will be compulsory only for WBL learning providers.
- 12 The fields along with the existing field Employment status on first day of learning, field L37, will also be made available for FE, but will not be compulsory. The plan for FE is that:
 - a pilot is run in 2007/08 to test the feasibility of collecting employment data for FE learners with a view to fully implementing the fields for FE in 2008/09
 - the pilot will be based on volunteer colleges, linked to the Framework for Excellence pilot and focus on the development of an employer responsiveness measure;
 - the unique employer identifier collected for Train to Gain learners is used to identify the employer.

New field to collect source of tuition fees

- 13 This field will be collected at the learning aim level and required for the FE ILR only.
- 14 The purpose of this field is to identify the source of tuition fees paid, to distinguish between fees paid by the learner and fees paid by the employer.
- 15 It is required to inform progress towards fee income targets and to monitor employer contributions enabling the LSC to demonstrate responsiveness to demand led adult learning.
- 16 It will include codes for:
 - a Tuition fees received direct from employer;
 - b Tuition fees received from learner and learner is intending to recover them from their employer;
 - c Tuition fees received from learner, or received on behalf of the learner from a source other than the employer;
 - d no tuition fees received
 - e not known

Proportion of subject taught in Superclass subject (H33, H34 and H35)

- 17 The definition of these three fields in the HE dataset will be changed to collect the proportion of subject taught by learn direct classification. This will bring the ILR in-line with the equivalent data collected on the HESA record.

Code Changes to existing fields

Telephone number, field L23

- 18 The valid entries in this field are changed so that spaces in the telephone number are not allowed. This is to bring the field in line with MIAP CDD.

Country of domicile, field L24

- 19 New codes for countries which are included on the MIAP CDD country list but which are not already collected will be added to this field. It is not proposed to adopt the MIAP CDD coding structures until 2008/09.

Learner support reason, field L34

- 20 The existing codes for access support and educational maintenance allowance will be made available on the WBL format ILR, as these forms of support now apply to WBL.

Sources of funding, field A11

- 21 The definition for the 'other European source' code, code '20', is changed and examples added. New codes are added to support the new ESF programme starting in 2008.

Reason for partial or full non-payment of tuition fees, field A14.

- 22 Requested by the LSC funding team.
- 23 Two new codes are added to this field to capture new reasons why learner may be eligible for tuition fee remission. These are :
- a code for category D offender learners;
 - a code for level 3 entitlement
- 24 Two redundant codes have been removed from this field and categories updated to reflect current funding policy.

Programme entry route, field A16

- 25 One code has been made unavailable for new starters in 2007/08. Three new codes are added to capture:
- Progression from a young apprenticeship to an apprenticeship;
 - Progression from a programme led pathway delivered in FE to an apprenticeship;
 - Progression from a programme led pathway delivered in FE to an advanced apprenticeship

Main delivery method, field A18

26 Three new codes are added to describe the redefined delivery modes for NVQ components.

Franchised and Partnership arrangements, field A21

27 One new code is added to record where the franchise discount does not apply on cost grounds.

Learning outcome grade, field A36

28 Changes are made to allow new formats of grades which are not currently catered for in the list of valid codes in this field. This has been requested by providers who are currently unable to record the grade accurately.

National Learning aim monitoring, field A46

29 Seven new codes are added in this field to identify:

- progression pathways;
- learner accounts pilot;
- employability skills programme (Job Centre Plus Basic Skills Phase 3);
- Train to Gain regional response funding (Type C funding)
- skills for jobs pilot;
- OLASS – Offenders in the community;
- Apprenticeships for Adults;

Highest qualification on entry, field H11

30 HEFCE have requested that the codes in this field are updated to make them consistent with the equivalent field in HESA record.

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