Preparing for ILR R04 2020/21 (all funding streams)

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LSECT
LEARNING & SKILLS
EVENTS, CONSULTANCY & TRAINING

ILR R04 deadline in 7 working days from now

4 December 2020 with reference date of 01/11/2020

R04 is used for in-year payments, past performance and future allocations

Compare how much more important it is than R05

Funding Model (FM)	Provider type	R04 04/12/2020	R05 07/01/2021
	Reference date	01/11/2020	
All funding models	Main data use	· MI & national statistics	
16-19 (excluding apprenticeships) (FM 25, 82)	Grant funded	√	
	Contract funded	√	
	Main data use	· In-year performance and monitoring · 2021/22 allocations · Qualification achievement rates 2019 to 2020	
Adult skills (non-apprenticeships) (FM 35, 81)	Grant funded	√	
	Contract funded	√	√
	Main data use	· Payments · Qualification achievement rates 2019 to 2020	· Payments

For 16-19s the R04 is used across 3 years
In-year monitoring (2020/21)

Setting allocation for next year (2021/22)

Finalising last year achievement rates (2019/20)

For AEB the R04 is used mainly important for achievement rates (2019/20)

http://assets.ctfassets.net/6h6ixebbpdwm/5ZqvZqReg73Qu3GfdhcWbr/1f3b5ebe03ab23cae6fb8fd5443f61d1/Appendix_A__Version_1__February_2020.pdf

Slide 1

Funding Model (FM)	Provider type	R04 04/12/2020	R05 07/01/2021
16-18 Apprenticeships (FM 35, 81)	Grant funded	√	√
	Contract funded	√	√
	Main data use	· Payments · Qualification achievement rates 2019 to 2020	· Payments
19+ Apprenticeships (FM 35, 81)	Grant funded	√	√
	Contract funded	√	√
	Main data use	· Payments · Qualification achievement rates 2019 to 2020.	· Payments
Apprenticeships from 1 May 2017 (FM 36)	Grant funded	√	√
	Contract funded	√	
	Main data use	· Payments · Qualification achievement rates 2019 to 2020.	· Payments
Advanced Learner Loan (FM 99 and FAMType ADL)	Grant funded	√	
	Contract funded or Loans only facility	√	*
	Main data use	· Monitoring of loan facility · Loan bursary payments · Qualification achievement rates 2019 to 2020.	· Monitoring of loan facility · Loan bursary payments
Non-funded (FM 99)**	Grant funded	√	
	Main data use	· Learner MI	

Critical for achievement rate calculation

For apprenticeships the R04 is mainly important for achievement rates (2019/20)

For advanced learner loans the R04 is mainly important for achievement rates (2019/20)

http://assets.ctfassets.net/6h6ixebbpdwm/5ZqvZqReg73Qu3GfdhcWbr/1f3b5ebe03ab23cae6fb8fd5443f61d1/Appendix_A__Version_1__February_2020.pdf

Slide 2

ILR R04 used for 16-19 allocations at colleges

This is how ESFA describe use of R04 for 2020/21 allocations

> **FE colleges, some other FE or higher education institutions**
>
> • we take the number of eligible students with a census date of 1 November 2019 based on R04 (2019 to 2020). We multiply this by the ratio of 1 November to all-year student numbers based on R04 (2018 to 2019) and the final R14 return for that year. We compare this figure with the student numbers calculated from R06 (2019 to 2020), both the year-to-date (as at 1 February) figure and the number recruited by 1 November.

So for 2021/22 allocations ESFA will:

Create ratio from 2019/20 R04 to R14
(e.g. extra 10% recruited in-year would be 1.1)

Take a funded learner count from R04 2020/21
(e.g. 2,000 16-19s)

Multiply the learner count by the ratio for allocation
(e.g. 2,000 x 1.1 = 2,200 16-19 allocation for 2020/21)

So R04 vital to get total funded learner number right and on average each learner worth £4,842

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-education-funding-allocations

ILR used for 16-19 allocations at ILPs

Independent learning providers

- depending on the profile recruitment for the individual provider, we will either use 1) a twelve month rolling figure for February 2019 to January 2020 based on R14 (2018 to 2019) and R06 (2019 to 2020) data, 2) the same approach as set out above for FE colleges, or 3) the average of approaches 1) and 2).

There may be a delay in issuing allocations for institutions where we use R06 data.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-education-funding-allocations

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So for 16-19 the key is to be sure they are fundable. Are you sure their last date of attendance was not before minimum duration?

Length of learning aim	Qualifying period
168 days (24 weeks)	42 days (6 weeks)
14 to 167 days (2 - 24 weeks)	14 days (2 weeks)
Fewer than 14 days (under 2 weeks)	1 day (1 attendance)

You can of course correct in time for R06 but that can be very embarrassing and could flag you as ripe for an audit (financial assurance visit)

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-education-funding-allocations

For more training and events visit
lsect.com

How to find the withdrawn 16-19 learners
Data Self Assessment Toolkit (PDSAT) reports

20Y-206: Learners on study programmes of no more than four weeks' duration	78
20Y-207: Withdrawals and qualifying days for funding	78
20Y-208: Withdrawals and qualifying days for Condition of Funding	79
20Y-209: Completions, withdrawals or transfers within first six weeks	80
20Y-210: Withdrawals and planned hours for learners continuing from a previous year	
20Y-211: Learning aims delivered in one day	

20Y-207: Withdrawals and qualifying days for funding

Funding rules monitoring plan: FRM29

Identifies learners that have withdrawn from programmes where the actual duration is close to the minimum number of qualifying days for funded learning[62].

The ESFA is monitoring learners that complete or leave learning on or just after the qualifying period for funding.

For learners on 16 to 19 study programmes, it is the date on which the learner withdraws from the study programme, rather than any individual learning aim, that determines whether the learner has reached the start qualifying date for funding.

No.	Name	Policy area	Policy rules and guidance	Changes from 2019 to 2020 plan
FRM29	Learners who complete or leave learning on or just after the qualifying period for funding	Common funding rules/multiple areas	Institutions must have evidence that individual students were undertaking the specified study programme during the learning period for which funding and retention is being recorded.	Includes T Levels

Make sure you have the same start and end dates on the timetable and register with the start and actual end date in the ILR

Check if any learner you think has withdrawn is not on this report. Maybe they were not properly withdrawn from all enrolments.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ilr-data-provider-data-self-assessment-toolkit-pdsat

Provider Self Assessment toolkit (PDSAT)

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ilr-data-provider-data-self-assessment-toolkit-pdsat

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PDSAT reports

Import an ILR into FIS
Export derived funding .mdb
Import .mdb into PDSAT
Use sampler to get audit spreadsheet

16-19 issues at ILR R04 simply around if any funding for overall learner should be generated

Audit spreadsheet = FM25 financial assurance working papers

	Test		Issue	Critical factor
1	Has the institution correctly assessed that the student is eligible for ESFA funding?	i	Eligibility for funding	The student satisfies the ESFA's eligibility criteria.
2	Does the learning agreement, enrolment form and/or timetable agree to the ILR in terms of data, *including eligibility for free meals in FE*?	i	ILR consistent with learning agreement	Funding is driven by the underlying ILR data which must agree with information confirmed by the student in the learning agreement.
10	Does the start date recorded in the ILR reconcile to registers, or alternative evidence of attendance held?	i	Learning start date	Funding for a learning aim or programme can be claimed only from the date on which learning activity directly related to the learning aim or programme begins and can be evidenced.
15	If the student has withdrawn from the programme, does the period of attendance on the programme qualify for funding?	i	Qualifying period for funding	For funding purposes, students are considered to have started a study programme once they have remained on that programme for at least the qualifying period for funding within the current funding year.
16	Where the student has withdrawn from any qualifications, have the withdrawal details been correctly recorded in the ILR?	i	Withdrawals	The learning actual end date recorded in the ILR reflects the last date that there is evidence of learning activity for each learning aim and the completion status and planned hours must be correctly updated as necessary.

Things like planned hours not going to alter allocation

Working papers via PDSAT sampler function : https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ilr-data-provider-data-self-assessment-toolkit-pdsat

ILR R04 also used for advanced math premium

"We establish the number of students studying an eligible level 3 maths qualification in the relevant academic year using the ILR (R04)"

75 qualifications that count as a maths component for Technical Baccalaureate as well as the full IBO Level 3 International Baccalaureate diploma (QN 50034157) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/16-to-19-qualifications-discount-codes-and-point-scores

Worth £14m in 2020/21 with 871 providers at an average of £16k per provider

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/16-to-19-allocation-data-2020-to-2021-academic-year

ILR R04 used for last year's achievement rates (all funding streams)

41 We treat learning aims as withdrawals for the **overall QAR** methodology where they have a 'Completion status' of 6 ('Learner has temporarily withdrawn from the aim due to an agreed break in learning') and where either:

a they do not have a corresponding restart record in the same funding year or in the following two funding years, **OR**

b the planned break recorded in the R14 ILR return for 2018 to 2019 has no corresponding restart record in the R04 ILR return of 2020 to 2021

If this scenario happens, we will set the reporting year to one year after the latter of the expected end year or actual end year.

For example, if you recorded an aim with a 'Learning planned end date' in July 2019 with a planned break in learning in April 2018, this will be a withdrawn aim in the 2019 to 2020 funding year if there is no restart record in:

a the R14 ILR return in 2018 to 2019, **OR**

b the R14 ILR return in 2019 to 2020, **OR**

c the R04 ILR return of 2020 to 2021

Key is to ensure the 'restart record' is in ILR R04, particularly for R04 – but also that it is correctly matched

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/qualification-achievement-rates-qar-2019-to-2020

Checking the carry-overs match in ILR R04

Matching learning aims across years

34. Many learning aims take more than one year to complete, meaning that the same learning aims for a particular learner can appear on more than one ILR file

1.

2.

35. We use various combinations of variables to ensure we match the correct records across years. The matching process matches records by UKPRN, Learner Reference Number, and Aim Reference together with the following combinations, in the following sequence.

3.

4.

- Learning start date, Learning planned end date, Learning actual end date
- Learning start date, Learning planned end date
- Learning start date, Expected end year (P_Expendyr), Learning actual end date
- Learning start date, Expected end year

5.

6.

36. Once we have matched the learning aim records, we discard those from previous years, leaving just the latest information for each learning aim in the QAR dataset.

Without a match they will count as not achieving

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/856548/ET_QAR_technical_specification_201819_v3.pdf

ILR R04 where learner reference numbers changes

ESFA: "Providers assign the Learner reference number and we use this number to match aims across years"

"If, for any reason, a learner's Learner reference number changes, either within a funding year or between years, then you must record this using the Learner reference number in previous year field.
https://guidance.submitlearnerdatabeta.fasst.org.uk/ilr/field/prevlearnrefnumber

"We use the information in the Learner reference number in the previous year field to change the Learner reference numbers for previous years to the latest Learner reference number. We keep the original Learner reference number in the QAR dataset in the LearnRefNumber_orig field.

"If you use the Learner reference number in previous year field when there has not been a change in the learner's Learner reference number, then this will prevent us from correctly matching that learner's aims."

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/856548/ET_QAR_technical_specification_201819_v3.pdf

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Reports before R04 ESFA's submit learner data portal

This one helps with apprentices and mismatches

Download learner level issue data

Your learner level view (Excel) allows you to see issues with individual learners.

This can be useful for identifying the specific learner records related to any issues identified in your monthly earnings breakdown.

Download R03 learner level view >

R03 Funding Rules Monitoring spreadsheet
For first time a limited number of pre-R04 reports [so no excuses!]

Report	Title
FRM06	Continuance Issues
FRM07	Breaks In Learning: Planned End Date
FRM08	Breaks In Learning: Duration
FRM09	Transfers with no return
FRM15	End Point Assessment Organisations

And ILR validation reports now looks for changes of dates between years

https://submitlearnerdatabeta.fasst.org.uk/

Funding Rules Monitoring reports

Example (plus one year for this year)

Area (all policy areas)	Report specification	Action you must take	Action we will take
FRM06 Continuing learners from 2018 to 2019 who do not appear in the 2019 to 2020 ILR	Identify learning aim records in the latest ILR data submission excluding learning aims which are not a 'regulated' qualification or a component of a regulated qualification Identify learning aim records in the R14 ILR data submission for the previous year which are reported as continuing in learning and have a planned end date after 1 August in the current funding year. Compare latest submission data with previous year's data, matching data on learner reference number or previous learner reference number, UKPRN or previous UKPRN or pre-merger UKPRN, learning aim reference, programme type, standard code, framework code, learning start date, where the expected learning aim does not appear in the latest ILR.	The 2018 to 2019 ILR must include aims that are continuing in the final return for the previous year (R14). If the learner was reported as continuing in the R14 return for the previous year, but has since been identified as having withdrawn before 1 August 2018, you must set the Completion status to code 3 'withdrawn' and complete the Withdrawal reason field with the relevant code. Record the Learning actual end date as the last day the learner was in learning: this will be in the previous ILR year, do not use 1 August of the current year.	We will treat these learners as withdrawn for the QARs

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/esfa-financial-assurance-monitoring-the-funding-rules

So a big deal, but NARTs won't be published for all to see owing to Covid

School, college or MAT level performance data

We will not be publishing school, college or multi-academy trust (MAT) level performance data based on summer 2020 tests, assessments and exams at any phase.

We will not be publishing, or sharing, school, college or MAT level accountability measures, such as Progress 8 and level 3 value added, using the summer 2020 data.

The performance tables that were due to be released in October and December 2020, and in January and March 2021, will not go ahead.

We will also not publish any institution-level qualification achievement rates in the national achievement rate tables for the 2019 to 2020 academic year.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-school-and-college-performance-measures/coronavirus-covid-19-school-and-college-accountability

And no QARs either!

We also announced that data will not be used by others, such as Ofsted, local authorities or devolved authorities or within ESFA and DFE, to hold institutions to account. Therefore, we will not supply 2019 to 2020 QARs for institutions to use internally themselves.

We are currently reviewing what data we will publish for statistical purposes in 2021 for the 2019 to 2020 QARs but, it will not contain any data at institution level.

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/qualification-achievement-rates-and-minimum-standards

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This webpage may also be useful

9. Action: Qualification Achievement Rates (QARs) 2018 to 2019 - funding monitoring reports and common data issues

9.1 Funding Rules Monitoring reports (FRM)

There are FRM reports for 2018 to 2019 that identify data issues that affect your QARs. You must review the reports below to ensure your data is accurate.

9.2 FRM04 - actual end date changes

This report relates to changes to the 'Learning actual end date' between ILR years.

If you recorded an aim as complete in the previous year's R14 ILR and continues to be returned in the current year, then you must return the same 'Learning actual end date' that you reported in the previous year. You must not amend the 'Learning actual end date' between years. Changing this date between years will mean we will not be able to match the learner's aims, this may generate orphan records that could negatively affect your QARs and may affect your funding.

If a learner undertakes an aim, finished learning, takes the final assessment and fails, then you must close the aim and record it as not achieved. Where this learner is then identified as needing further support or additional learning to pass the assessment, then you must record a new learning aim as a restart, with the 'Funding adjustment for prior learning' field completed to account for the new learning required to pass the resit.

9.3 FRM05 – planned end date changes

This report relates to changes in the 'Learning planned end date' between funding years.

You must not change or update the 'Learning planned end date' after the funding qualifying period has passed. You must not change this date to account for a change in circumstance such as illness, slow progress or unemployment. Changing this date between years will mean we will not be able to match the learner's aims, this may generate orphan records that could negatively affect your QARs and may affect your funding.

If you identify the planned end date as significantly incorrect or incorrect due to an administrative error, after the 2017 to 2018 R14 ILR, you must:

- set the 'Completion status' to code 3 'withdrawn' and complete the 'Withdrawal reason' using code 40 'learner has transferred to a new learning aim with the same provider'
- record a 'Learning actual end date' of 1 August 2018
- record a new learning aim with the same 'Learning aim reference' and the following:
  - a 'Learning start date' of 1 August 2018
  - the correct 'Learning planned end date'
  - record this aim as a restart (Learning Delivery Funding and Monitoring Type = 'RES')
  - where appropriate, complete the 'Funding adjustment for prior learning' field with the percentage of learning that is still to be delivered

If the planned end date changes for reasons other than administrative errors, you must return the data that you reported in R14 of the previous year.

9.4 FRM06 - continuance issues

This report relates to continuing learners from 2017 to 2018 who do not appear in the 2018 to 2019 ILR.

We will treat continuing learning aims in the R14 2017 to 2018 ILR that do not have a corresponding record in the 2018 to 2019 ILR as a withdrawal for the overall QAR methodology.

The 2018 to 2019 ILR must include all aims that were reported as continuing ('Completion status' = 1 and the 'Learning actual end date' is null) in the 2017 to 2018 R14 ILR return.

If you reported the learner as continuing in the 2017 to 2018 R14 ILR return, but subsequently identify them as having withdrawn before 1 August 2018, then you must set the 'Completion status' to code 3 (withdrawn) and complete the 'Withdrawal reason' field with the relevant code. Record the 'Learning actual end date' as the last day the learner was in learning; this date will be in the previous ILR year - do not use 1 August 2018.

If data is incorrect after the 2017 to 2018 R14 ILR due to an administrative error, then you should correct the data and continue to return this for the duration of the 2018 to 2019 ILR. More guidance on correcting errors is available in Section 5.1 of the Provider Support Manual.

If you need to report an actual end date in 2017 to 2018 for those aims, then you need to ensure your Management Information (MI) system is set up to export 2017 to 2018 learning actual end dates.

For traineeship and apprenticeship programmes, the ILR must include the programme aim and all the associated component aims, even if the component aims are completed and closed.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-inform/inform-may-2019#action-qualification-achievement-rates-qars-2018-to-2019---funding-monitoring-reports-and-common-data-issues

Funding Rules Monitoring reports after R04
ESFA use R04 to begin to publish all monthly FRM reports, but for 2020/21 via a different portal

Education & Skills Funding Agency

Monitoring post-16 funding for 2020 to 2021: reports user guide

Version 1: November 2020

We will publish the next set of data in the post-16 monitoring reports dashboard on

17 December 2020

Post 16 monitoring report dates

20 January 2021

17 February 2021

17 March 2021

21 April 2021

20 May 2021

17 June 2021

19 July 2021

18 August 2021

28 September 2021

05 November 2021

To support you to import data into your own systems, and to use current Department for Education (DfE) platforms, we will publish a post-16 monitoring reports dashboard in View your education data. We will no longer publish reports in a Microsoft Excel format on Submit learner data, although you will be able to access reports from the 2019 to 2020 funding year. All in-year data will be available in a single place and can be exported as a single file. We have fixed any formatting issues you may have previously experienced with the previous software.

What we monitor

17. We analyse all learning aim records that you report, or which we expect to be reported, in the following funding streams:

  a. Formula-funded adult skills provision (the Adult Education Budget including traineeships for 19 to 24-year olds and community learning)
  b. Devolved adult skills funding
  c. ESFA non-formula funded community learning
  d. Devolved non-formula funded community learning
  e. Apprenticeships
  f. Advanced Learner Loans
  g. 16 to 19 funding (study programmes including 16 to 18 traineeships, T Levels and T Level transition programmes)

37. You will need an IDAMS account with the "view your education data – post-16 monitoring" user role and associated with a UKPRN to access the dashboard securely. Your organisation's super user will be able to grant you the correct user role.

Once successfully logged in, you will have the option to select 'Data Quality and assurance'

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/esfa-financial-assurance-monitoring-the-funding-rules

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R04 also used for in-year growth requests

Exceptional in-year growth

20. Each year we review the levels of student number delivery of all colleges, schools, academies (except if funded on estimates), SPIs and HEIs based on the autumn school census or ILR R04 data. When institutions deliver exceptional in-year growth compared to their allocation, we may increase their allocations. These arrangements are separate from the reconciliation arrangements that apply to ILPs, which we set out in the ILR funding returns guidance. As this is a data driven exercise, institutions do not have to submit a business case to be considered for growth.

21. We identify exceptional growth through analysing the current allocated student numbers against actual evidenced recruitment and the projected end-year position. We also consider under-delivery at the institution in the previous year and the national picture of growth. We will base growth funding on a standard threshold determined by affordability, and growth is likely to be funded at a marginal rate. We may require additional eligibility or audit checks before allocating growth funding. We will notify institutions who will receive exceptional in-year growth in February or March 2021.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/936204/Funding_rates_and_formula_202021_v1.3.pdf

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Colleges fear enrolment surge could see 20,000 sixth formers go 'unfunded'

Billy Camden

Wed 11th Nov 2020, 0:01

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Around 20,000 "unfunded" 16 to 18-year-old students are studying in colleges this year following a surge in enrolments due to Covid-19, according to the Association of Colleges.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON

https://feweek.co.uk/2020/11/11/colleges-fear-enrolment-surge-could-see-20000-sixth-formers-go-unfunded/

New financial assurance (ILR audit) checklist

When you run the PDSAT 'sampler' function, one of the files created is a new checklist, alongside the working papers

Checklist will help providers understand the evidence needed to enable the auditor to be satisfied that the rules have been met

There are remote desk-based audits taking place at the moment and the checklist is 'to assist auditors in locating evidence'
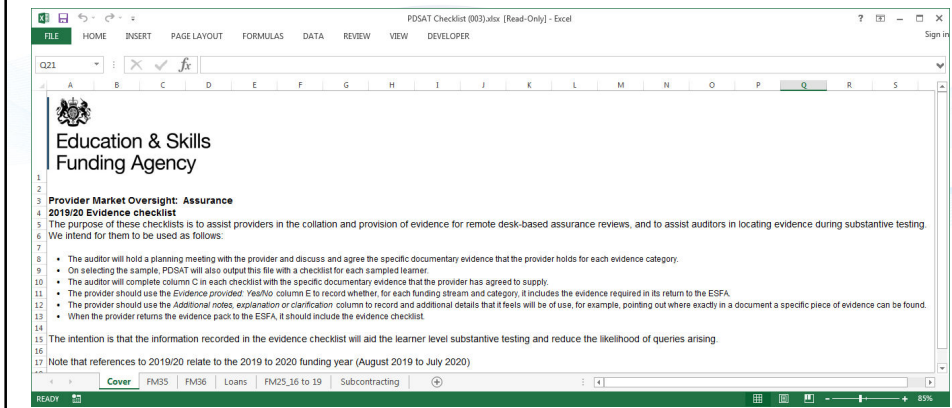
New financial assurance (ILR audit) checklist
Eg. FM35 (AEB) and relationship to the D1 working papers

Final Q&A