

Pathway Apprenticeships Newsletter

15th January 2021

No.1

FIPS is LIVE!

The Pathway Apprenticeship contracts are now available on FIPS. There are some things you need to be aware of:

- Pathway Apprenticeships uses the Employability Fund model for contracts, therefore your PA contracts will show on FIPS as EF. PA is essentially a new Stage of EF for FIPS purposes.
- For those who currently hold an Employability Fund contract, it is not possible to have both EF and PA within the same contract, therefore we have set up your Organisation as a new Training Provider with a suffix of “(PA)”. The FIPS Team have given the relevant access to this Organisation which mirrors that of your EF contract.
- For those who currently only hold a Modern Apprenticeship contract, your Pathway Apprenticeship contract has been set up with the same access as your MA contract.
- As PA uses the EF model, it has not been possible to include the PA age groups (16-18 and 16-24) into FIPS as these overlap the current Age Groups in FIPS (16-17 and 18+). We have split your contracted volumes into these two age groups, but these may not be correct in terms of the participants who start on your programme. If this is the case, please contact ntpcontracts@sds.co.uk who will adjust the volumes to meet your requirements.
- We have added two new eligibility codes;
 - PA 1a - 18 and under who has reached their statutory school leaving date and is not in education, employment or training.
 - PA 2a - 16-24 and participating in a Kickstart Programme as an employed status participant.
- Please find the new FIPS Quick Start Guide for PA below. This will also be available online shortly.



FIPS - Quick Start
Guide - PA.pdf

Should you require any changes to your FIPS Users as a result of the Pathway Apprenticeship inclusion, this can be done by submitting a FIPS User Request Form – In Year Additions and Amendments which can be found [here](#).

PA Provider WBCU/Metaskills Awareness Sessions

We are planning to offer online sessions in partnership with SQA focusing on the Work Based Challenge Unit and Metaskills which may be new to some Providers. We will be in touch with dates as soon as we have these organised.

Business Skills Framework Code Error

The Business Skills (including Digital) framework code has been input incorrectly on Appendix 1. We have now updated this on the Appendix which you will find [here](#) shortly. The correct code for use this academic year is GR50 46.

Referral Form

We have updated Appendix 2 - Referral form after receiving feedback to include a question on the individuals access to IT. This will be available shortly at this [link](#). You can continue to use the existing Referral form until the new version is available, which should be Monday 18th January.

PA FAQs

We are working on a Frequently Asked Question document which we will share with you shortly.