Eligibility for the New Standard

Requirements for application

All organisations seeking assessment should be registered with the UK Register of Learning Providers (UKRLP); further information is available at their website www.ukrlp.co.uk

All organisations must have been trading, and engaged in the provision and delivery of training and development solutions to employers, for at least 12 months at the point of registration.

There are no restrictions set in terms of the track record, or size and scope of business with employers. We would though advise those with a very limited scale and/or history of working with employers to think carefully before applying, as it is unlikely that they will have a sufficient evidence base to demonstrate performance against the Standard’s requirements.

Eligibility for assessment and accreditation

A number of eligibility conditions are set for organisations wishing to be assessed for, or eventually be recognised under, accreditation for the Standard. The conditions have been laid down to protect the Standard rather than to exclude providers.

All organisations

- All organisations must declare their financial condition to be stable and sustainable, and provide any supporting documentation as requested to demonstrate this.
- All organisations must declare if they have been served with an Improvement Notice or other instrument by the Health and Safety Executive within the last two years.
- All organisations must provide two specific named references for whom they have engaged in the provision and delivery of training and development solutions within the last two years.

Special conditions for organisations in receipt of public funds

- All organisations receiving funding which requires their involvement in the Ofsted (and formerly, ALI) grading and inspection regime will have to make available their latest inspection report.
- Where an organisation holds an organisational (‘leadership and management’) grade of 4 or 5 (pre-2007 inspection regime), this will preclude them from being accredited under Part A of the Standard.
- Where an organisation has a Learning and Skills Council Provider Financial Assurance rating, it is obliged to make this known in declaring its financial health.
- Where an organisation holds a broad sector subject area grade of 4 or 5 (pre-2007 inspection regime), this will preclude them from being accredited under Part B of the Standard for any linked sector.
- Where an organisation is currently under a ‘minimum levels of performance notice to improve’ from the Learning and Skills Council, this will preclude them from being accredited under Part B of the Standard for any linked sector.

From July 2010, LSC funded providers assessed under the new Framework for Excellence regime will need to be rated as Good or Outstanding in the Employer Responsiveness Key Performance Area to be eligible to seek or to hold accreditation under the Standard.