LSC funded pre-employment provision offers

The LSC is the organisation with primary responsibility for the planning and funding of further education for those aged 16 and over in England. As part of this, the LSC has responsibility for ensuring the delivery of appropriate skills provision to Jobcentre Plus customers, who are a priority customer group. This provision includes basic skills and job-related skills training including that developed in response to the economic downturn.

The department for Work and Pensions (DWP) primarily contracts with providers to deliver provision specifically for long-term unemployed Jobcentre Plus customers who are supported under the various New Deal programmes. Participation in these programmes is mandatory and a condition of receiving benefit.

Through the delivery of an Integrated Employment and Skills Service, new joint management arrangements should ensure that the LSC and JCP offer complementary packages of flexible and responsive provision to meet the needs of JCP customers and employers in the local economy. JCP should be notified of provider and course details for all offers through joint management arrangements locally.

JCP front-line Advisers can directly refer customers with skills needs to the most appropriate local provision to meet those needs. With the exception of mandatory New Deal customers, JCP Advisers should prioritise LSC-funded skills provision in line with national agreements.

Training offer for those unemployed for 6 months

**Key features:** Provision is typically 2 to 8 weeks full or part-time. Training must focus on the objective of delivering provision or units towards a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification. The expectation is that the qualification will be started whilst the participant is funded under this offer and completed in the workplace once in employment or through mainstream funding (typically in a college).

**Target customer group:** Adults aged 19 and over who have been unemployed for 6 months or who have been fast tracked to this status.
Delivery by: Mainly FE Colleges

Outputs: Skills and/or qualifications that contribute towards the achievement of a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification; a job outcome with continuation of the training started under this offer.

Key point: This is for those who are able to undertake a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification and who need a significant skills intervention to up-skill or re-skill.

IES Team
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