Criteria used for LAD "level 2 entitlement" and "level 3 entitlement" fields in 2005/06

Introduction
Revised criteria have been applied to data in the "level 2 entitlement" field in the Learning Aim Database (LAD), and these updates were made during the week ending 26 August 2005.

Further revised criteria have been applied to the "level 3 entitlement" field, and these updates were made during the week ending 11 November 2005.

These criteria only affect data from 2005/06; records in the LAD for 2004/05 are based on the same criteria as before.

Definition of full level 2

The full level 2 definition has 2 parts:

- Aims selected on the type of learning aim. This includes GCSEs, NVQs and GNVQs.
- Other vocationally related qualifications (VRQs) that are likely to be counted as full level 2 in the Government's Labour Force Survey.

In addition qualifications must be approved on the DfES Section 96 or 97 lists or be a component of an approved qualification [LSC funding status code= 01,02,03 or 06]

The table below shows the criteria used to select learning aims and the percentage value assigned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aim type</th>
<th>Default percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NVQ level 2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNVQ Intermediate</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O levels, GCSE grades A*-C (5) double awards (including vocational GCSEs)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O levels, GCSE grades A*-C (5) (including vocational GCSEs)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O levels, GCSE grades A*-C (5) short courses.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other qualifications at level 2 and of 325 or more guided learning hours (from QCA Openquals data)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aim type | Default percentage
---|---
A level | 100
AS level/A2 | 50

Qualifications no longer counting as full level 2 under new criteria
A small number of qualifications were previously flagged as "Full Level 2 Qualification" under the previous criteria, but would not be included under the new criteria.

These qualifications have not been changed and continue to count as full level 2 as before, so as not to disadvantage any providers or learners already using these qualifications.

Definition of full level 3
The full level 3 definition has 3 parts:
- Aims selected on the type of learning aim. This includes NVQs, GNVQs and VCEs.
- Access to Higher Education qualifications recognised by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA)
- Other qualifications (VRQs) that are likely to be counted as full level 3 in the Government's Labour Force Survey.

In addition qualifications must be approved on the DfES Section 96 or 97 lists or be a component of an approved qualification [LSC funding status code= 01,02,03 or 06]. Access to HE qualifications must be marked as recognised by QAA [LSC funding status code= 04]

The table below shows the criteria used to select learning aims and the percentage value assigned.

| Aim type | Default percentage |
---|---|
NVQ level 3 | 100 |
GNVQ level 3 | 100 |
A level, AVCEs | 50 |
AS level/A2, AS VCEs | 25 |
AVCE Double awards | 100 |
Level 3 aims marked as QAA-recognised Access to HE. | 100 |
Other qualifications at level 3 and of 595 or more guided learning hours (from QCA Openquals data) | 100 |
Some other qualifications previously | 100 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aim type</th>
<th>Default percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>identified as full level 3 have retained this status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Searching the LAD based on level 2 and 3 entitlement categories

The LAD search page includes criteria to help users to search for particular level 2 and 3 entitlement categories. A user can search for a single category with level 2 entitlement (for example all AS/A2 qualifications), or select several categories at once (for example Full level 2 qualifications and AS/A2s and A levels).