

## Changes to GLA AEB Funding and Performance Management Rules for Grant-funded Providers

<b>Paragraph 43 – Amendment to text (July 2020)</b>	
<b>Original Text (August 2019)</b>	<b>Addition of New Text (July 2019)</b>
Any individual with any of the statuses listed below, and is a resident in London, is eligible to receive funding and is exempt from the three-year residency requirement rule. You must have seen the learner's immigration permission in these circumstances:...	Any individual with any of the statuses listed below, and is a resident in London, is eligible to receive funding and is exempt from the three-year residency requirement rule. You must have seen the learner's immigration permission <b>which would include the biometric residence permit (BRP) and in some cases an accompanying letter from the Home Office in these circumstances:...</b>
...45.9 the husband, wife, civil partner or child of any of the above in paragraphs 45.1 to 45.8	...45.7 the husband, wife, civil partner or child of any of the above in paragraphs 45.1 to 45.6  i.e. the husband, wife, civil partner or child of any of those granted permission under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 Leave (45.7) or Calais Leave to Remain (45.8) is no longer covered.

<b>Paragraph 54 – Amendment to text (July 2020)</b>	
<b>Original Text (August 2019)</b>	<b>Addition of New Text (July 2020)</b>
You must not claim funding for individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out above unless they are eligible under the Fees and Awards Regulations 2007 (as amended). This includes:	You must not claim funding for individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out above. <b>Examples of individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria include the following. Please note this list is not exhaustive:</b>

<b>Legal entitlements - Addition of New Text (July 2020)</b>
Information technology ('digital') skills, up to and including level 1, for individuals aged 19 and over, who have digital skills assessed at below level 1

<b>Paragraph 149 – Contributions Table (July 2020)</b>
The Essential Digital Skills Qualification has been added.
Flexibility for some Level 3 qualifications to be fully funded has been added.

**Paragraph 158 – Revised text (July 2020)**

Added a clarification that some subsequent level 3 qualifications are funded in 2020/21 through the London Recovery Flexibility.

**Paragraph 171.4 - Addition of New Text (July 2020)**

We will fund learning in the workplace where a learner has a legal entitlement to full funding for:

essential digital skills qualification, up to and including level 1 (paragraph 1)

**Paragraph 182-184 – Addition of New Paragraphs (July 2020)**

We will fully fund individuals, including individuals who are employed, aged 19 or older, assessed at below level 1, as part of their legal entitlement on the day they start the following qualifications:

Essential Digital Skills qualification (EDSQ up to and including level 1)

We will fully fund non-regulated learning for learners, including those assessed at pre-entry level with significant learning difficulties and/or disabilities as part of a personalised learning programme, where assessment has identified the learner cannot undertake provision identified in paragraph 183.1

You must:

- carry out an initial assessment using current assessment tools based on the national standards for essential digital skills
- carry out an appropriate diagnostic assessment to inform and structure a learner's learner file to use as a basis for a programme of study
- enrol the learner on a level above that at which they were assessed and be able to provide evidence of this
- deliver ongoing assessment to support learning
- record the evidence of all assessment outcomes in the evidence pack
- The assessments must place a learner's current skills levels within the level descriptors used for the RQF.

**Paragraph 191 – Addition of new paragraph (July 2020)**

We will fund ESOL learning up to and including Level 2.

**Paragraphs 193-196 – Addition of New Paragraphs (July 2020)**

Please note that the flexibilities below will be valid for the 2020/21 academic year only.

Learners may undertake a full funded Level 3 qualification in addition to the statutory entitlement, where they are:

unemployed or  
in receipt of a low wage as described at paragraph 154, and  
enrolled on a vocational qualification that must be completed by the end of  
the 2020/21 academic year and supports an individual to regain work or  
employment stability.

The Level 3 flexibility supports the London recovery in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic. The flexibility will apply initially one year only to support recovery. Qualifications eligible for the Level 3 flexibility may include vocational courses such as certificates or vocational diplomas with less than one academic year in duration and that are designed to provide progression to work. Qualifications should be listed on Learning Aim Reference Service (LARS) database and be available to new learners and will be funded at the listed or matrix funding rate. Further guidance will be issued about recording the flexibility on the ILR.

Qualifications such as Access to HE Diplomas, A Levels and two-year Diplomas or Extended Diplomas are not in scope for the Level 3 flexibility. Where the intended programme of study is the completion of a two-year qualification, the GLA would not expect to fund the first year of study under the flexibility. Qualifications that are confirmed as being withdrawn under the Review of post-16 qualifications at level 3 and below in England are not included. Permission should be sought from the GLA Provider Manager for the delivery of any qualifications that may fall outside the above arrangements but where exceptional circumstances may apply for priority employment reasons.

#### **Paragraph 197 – Addition of New Paragraph (July 2020)**

To adapt provision and respond flexibly to the London recovery skills needs in each local area, providers may use up to 10% of their AEB formula funded allocation for non-formula funded provision. Providers should use this flexibility to respond to local skills needs such as short courses to enable Londoners to progress into work, in particular where they are unemployed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Providers should demonstrate good value for money when applying this flexibility. Providers should refer to the guidance set out at paragraphs 205-210 in designing non-formula activity. Further guidance will be issued regarding the reconciliation of this aspect of provision.

#### **Paragraphs 258-260 – Revisions to text (July 2020)**

The text has been amended to account for the reduced performance tolerance threshold.

#### **Paragraph 266 – Addition of New Paragraph (July 2020)**

We will use our approach to funding to make sure learning provision is of a high quality. We will use your track record to assess your ability to deliver education and training to the required standard. We may not consider growth requests and may reduce or remove your allocation if one or more of the following is true:

your Ofsted grade is inadequate  
you are in formal intervention for minimum standards or inspection  
you have been issued with a notice for financial management and control  
you have been issued with a notice to improve, additional conditions of funding or additional contractual obligations in relation to minimum quality standards for 19+ education and training  
you have significantly underdelivered against your contract value in previous years  
you are subject to an investigation for breach of contract and/or failed audit.

#### **Paragraphs 268-270 – New paragraphs (July 2020)**

Due to the need to maintain social distancing, we recognise that there will be a continuing impact of Covid-19 in 2020/21. We will take into account the impact as part of the reconciliation process for 2020/21. Providers should seek to ensure that AEB funding is fully utilised for the purpose of supporting the London recovery through the delivery of adult education and skills, in particular engaging those Londoners who are recently unemployed.

We will initially introduce a revised performance threshold of 90%, which is a reduction from the current threshold of 97%. Where a provider performs at 90%, the AEB grant-funding allocation will be paid in full. This measure will provide additional funding stability and flexibility to support providers in responding to the London recovery.

As the impact of Covid-19 upon adult learning recruitment following the easing of lockdown measures is uncertain, the performance threshold and reconciliation arrangements for 2020/21 will be reviewed in January 2021. Based on this milestone review, the Mayor may determine any further support measures in respect of reconciliation that are necessary to support provider funding stability and the London recovery.

#### **Annex 4 Standard National Profile (July 2020)**

The standard national profile has been updated to align with the ESFA's National AEB Funding Rules 2020/21.

## Changes to GLA AEB Funding and Performance Management Rules for Procured Providers

<b>Paragraph 56 – Amendment to text (July 2020)</b>	
<b>Original Text (August 2019)</b>	<b>Addition of New Text (July 2020)</b>
Any individual with any of the statuses listed below, and is a resident in London, is eligible to receive funding and is exempt from the three-year residency requirement rule. You must have seen the learner's immigration permission in these circumstances:...	Any individual with any of the statuses listed below, and is a resident in London, is eligible to receive funding and is exempt from the three-year residency requirement rule. You must have seen the learner's immigration permission <b>which would include the biometric residence permit (BRP) and in some cases an accompanying letter from the Home Office in these circumstances:...</b>
56.9 the husband, wife, civil partner or child of any of the above in paragraphs 56.1 to 56.8	...56.7 the husband, wife, civil partner or child of any of the above in paragraphs 56.1 to 56.6  i.e. the husband, wife, civil partner or child of any of those granted permission under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 Leave (56.8) or Calais Leave to Remain (56.9) is no longer covered.

<b>Legal entitlements - Addition of New Text (July 2020)</b>
Information technology ('digital') skills, up to and including level 1, for individuals aged 19 and over, who have digital skills assessed at below level 1

<b>Paragraph 138 – Contributions Table (July 2020)</b>
The Essential Digital Skills Qualification has been added.
Flexibility for some Level 3 qualifications to be fully funded has been added.

<b>Paragraph 77 – Amendment to text (July 2020)</b>	
<b>Original Text (August 2019)</b>	<b>Addition of New Text (July 2020)</b>
You must not claim funding for individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out above unless they are eligible under the Fees and Awards Regulations 2007 (as amended). This includes:	You must not claim funding for individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out above. <b>Examples of individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria include the following. Please note this list is not exhaustive:</b>

**Paragraph 164 – Revised text (July 2020)**

Added a clarification that some subsequent level 3 qualifications are funded in 2020/21 through the London Recovery Flexibility.

**Paragraph 189-191 – Addition of New Paragraphs (July 2020)**

We will fully fund individuals, including individuals who are employed, aged 19 or older, assessed at below level 1, as part of their legal entitlement on the day they start the following qualifications:

Essential Digital Skills qualification (EDSQ up to and including level 1)

We will fully fund non-regulated learning for learners, including those assessed at pre-entry level with significant learning difficulties and/or disabilities as part of a personalised learning programme, where assessment has identified the learner cannot undertake provision identified in paragraph 190.1

You must:

carry out an initial assessment using current assessment tools based on the national standards for essential digital skills

carry out an appropriate diagnostic assessment to inform and structure a learner's learner file to use as a basis for a programme of study

enrol the learner on a level above that at which they were assessed and be able to provide evidence of this deliver ongoing assessment to support learning

record the evidence of all assessment outcomes in the evidence pack

The assessments must place a learner's current skills levels within the level descriptors used for the RQF.

**Paragraph 198 – Addition of new paragraph (July 2020)**

We will fund ESOL learning up to and including Level 2.

**Paragraphs 200-203 – Addition of New Paragraphs (July 2020)**

Please note that the flexibilities below will be valid for the 2020/21 academic year only.

Learners may undertake a full funded Level 3 qualification in addition to the statutory entitlement, where they are:

unemployed or

in receipt of a low wage as described at paragraph 154, and

enrolled on a vocational qualification that must be completed by the end of the 2020/21 academic year and supports an individual to regain work or employment stability.

The Level 3 flexibility supports the London recovery in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic. The flexibility will apply initially one year only to support recovery. Qualifications eligible for the Level 3 flexibility may include vocational courses such as certificates or vocational diplomas with less than one academic year in duration and that are designed to provide progression to work. Qualifications should be listed on Learning Aim Reference Service (LARS) database and be available to new learners and will be funded at the listed or matrix funding rate. Further guidance will be issued about recording the flexibility on the ILR.

Qualifications such as Access to HE Diplomas, A Levels and two-year Diplomas or Extended Diplomas are not in scope for the Level 3 flexibility. Where the intended programme of study is the completion of a two-year qualification, the GLA would not expect to fund the first year of study under the flexibility. Qualifications that are confirmed as being withdrawn under the Review of post-16 qualifications at level 3 and below in England are not included. Permission should be sought from the GLA Provider Manager for the delivery of any qualifications that may fall outside the above arrangements but where exceptional circumstances may apply for priority employment reasons.

<b>Paragraph 325 – Amendment to text (July 2020)</b>	
<b>Original Text (August 2019)</b>	<b>Addition of New Text (July 2020)</b>
We will take the date of a learner's last achievement as the ESF leaving date, or the last time they attended learning if there is no achievement.	We will take the ESF leave date recorded by providers in the supplementary data form as the ESF leaving date.  Where the supplementary data does not show an ESF leave date and does show that a learner has left ESF the programme, we will take the last learning actual end date from that learner's procured learning aims as recorded in the ILR as the ESF leaving date.

## Changes to GLA AEB Funding Rates and Formula for All Providers

### July 2020 Changes

#### **Paragraph 48 – New paragraph (July 2020)**

We will fully fund some Level 3 qualifications in addition to the statutory entitlement through the London Recovery Flexibility for the 2020/21 academic year only. Further information on eligible qualifications and learner eligibility is provided in the Rules. Enrolments must be flagged in the ILR.

#### **Paragraph 49 – New paragraph (July 2020)**

All Delivery Area Monitoring (DAM) codes and mechanisms for implementing the GLA flexibilities and policy changes for 2020/21 will be published in a separate technical guidance note.

#### **Paragraph 50 – New paragraph (July 2020)**

GLA grant providers may use up to 10% of their AEB formula funded allocation for non-formula funded provision.

#### **Paragraph 53 – New paragraph (July 2020)**

A new digital entitlement for adults with low or no digital skills will be introduced from August 2020, supported by a suite of Essential Digital Skills qualifications (EDSQs) being developed at entry level and level 1. The ESFA will approve these new EDSQs as they are added to Ofqual's Register of Regulated Qualifications and meet approval principles.