

Migration of Continuing Learners from 2009/10 to 2010/11 Academic Year

Following the live migration which took place on Monday, 9 August 2010, we now have the live migration reports. This indicates that there are a number of common errors, which has prevented a number of learners and aims from migrating. A summary of these errors is at Appendix RV_Summary. These errors will need to be corrected to ensure that data can be successfully submitted for 2010/11 ILR returns.

The details of errors for each affected Provider will be circulated by the relevant Skills Funding Agency office.

However we have identified some common errors that have triggered the validation rules and prevent the migration. The relevant rules and the invalid data is in the detail which is being sent. However we thought the following guidance and information might be useful.

Top Errors

A44

The two largest causes of error are with field A44; A44_3 is checking that it is a number in this field and not text. There are 17187 occurrences across the country out of 42616 errors in total in total. A44_4 is checking for a valid EDS number. The majority of errors with A44 are triggering both rules.

Common problems are text descriptions of employers or departments within employers, etc, a combination of numbers and text, and invalid EDS numbers.

In order to correct this data, providers need to identify the relevant valid EDS number for the employer of the learner. They can do this by visiting <http://edrs.lsc.gov.uk>. If they require a new EDS number to be used in this field, they will need to contact Blue Sheep on either 01242 545 346 or by emailing eds@bluesheep.com.

A22

This field is used to identify where provision is franchised and who is delivering the training. Currently a number of providers are using this field for other purposes. It should only contain the UKPRN (8 digit number) of a franchised partner.

Common errors are 2 or 3 digit numbers which might indicate department code within the provider. Or some 6 digit numbers which might be other provider numbers (e.g. UPINs).

If necessary providers need to identify the UKPRN for their franchise partners by visiting www.ukrlp.co.uk.

If providers have been using this field for other purposes, providers need to remove the entry.

R30

This rule is used to identify a programme of learning or where a programme aim is missing from the ILR data.

The R30 rule is triggering because subsidiary aims have been attempting to migrate without a programme aim. I believe that there are two possible reasons for this:

- a) the programme aim has been closed but subsidiary learning aims have been left open within the programme; or
- b) the programme aim has not been migrated because the planned end date is before 1 August 2007 but the subsidiary aims have planned end dates that are after 1 August 2007, and the learning actual end date (A31) has not been completed.

For a) the provider needs to close the subsidiary aims by entering a correct actual learning end date A31 for period 13 2009/10.

For b) If the learning is still continuing the provider needs to check the planned end date on the programme aim is correct as it may have been entered incorrectly e.g. 03/09/2000 instead of 03/09/2008.

Future start dates.

A number of aims were entered in the 2009/10 Period 12 return with future start dates and many of these have entries which are invalid for 2010/11 (but were valid for 2009/10). So a number of aims, with start dates in 2010/11, have failed because they did not have main delivery method (A18) completed. Because of rule A04_A18_A27_1 which is new for 2010/11.

We have contacted some providers directly, those with the largest numbers of errors to explain their specific problems. Other providers should wait for their Skills Funding Agency office to send their information to them. Of course some Providers have had no failures in their data and so will not receive any.

If providers have any queries about their data, please refer them to the Data Service Desk servicedesk@thedataservice.org.uk or 0870 267 0001.