

FUNDING WATCH

2009/4

26 June 2009

Changes made to the funding for BTEC National Diplomas in 2008/09

Introduction

The Policy Team at Edexcel have received a number of queries about the change made back in 2008/09 to the funding for the BTEC National Diplomas. This short Funding Watch explains the change, and its impact. For further information see the links to the relevant documents.

Proposed glh changes

Back in [March 2007](#) the LSC stated that they were considering changing the funding for the GNVQ Level 3 successor qualifications (which of course include the BTEC National Awards, Certificates and Diplomas) so it would be in line with the awarding body glh (guided learning hours). This would have resulted in a drop in funding for the National Award, Certificate, and Diploma.

Proposed changes:

	2007/08 glh	2008/09 glh	glh reduction
National Diplomas (18 units)	1440	1080	-25%
National Certificates (12 units)	900	720	-20%
National Award (6 units)	450	360	-20%

The LSC considered average provider delivery patterns, and for [2008/09](#) kept the rates for the six-unit Award and 12-unit Certificate above the awarding body recommended glh. However, for 2008/09 they reduced the 18-unit Diploma rate from the equivalent of 1440 glh down to the awarding body recommended 1080 glh.

Actual changes:

	2007/08 glh	2008/09 glh	glh reduction
National Diplomas (18 units)	1440	1080	-25%
National Certificates (12 units)	900	900	N/A
National Award (56 units)	450	450	N/A

Impact of the change

The glh rate reduction for the National Diploma from 1440 to 1080 appears significant; it represents a 25% reduction in glh. However, according to [modelling](#) commissioned by Edexcel the change of glh, under the new funding formula, represents a funding cut of as little as 3%.

Edexcel Funding Watches are intended to help colleagues keep up to date with national developments. Information is correct at the time of writing and is offered in good faith. No liability is accepted for decisions made on the basis of information given. Providers can access the LSC's Learning Aims Database which allows them to search for aims and view aim details at: <http://providers.lsc.gov.uk/LAD/>. The last word on funding lies with the LSC. Providers will be in contact with their LSC in relation to the planning and funding of their provision.