MAYOR OF LONDON

GLA Adult Education Budget 2023-24

Earnings Adjustment Statement guidance

For the 2023 to 2024 funding year (1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024).

Version 1

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Introduction and purpose of the document

- This document sets out how to code and submit data relating to your GLAfunded delivery through the Earnings Adjustment Statement (EAS) data collection. For details of coding data relating to delivery funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) or other devolved authorities please refer to the relevant <u>ESFA</u> or regional EAS guidance.
- 2. We may make changes to these principles and features during the funding year. This document is designed for colleges, other training organisations and employers.

Understanding the terminology

- 3. The terms 'GLA', 'we', 'us' and 'our' refer to the Greater London Authority.
- 4. When we refer to 'you', 'your' or 'providers', this includes colleges, higher education institutions and local authorities who receive funding from us to deliver education and training. We will use the generic term 'you' or 'provider' unless the requirements only apply to a specific provider type.

Contacting us

5. You can contact us through our Service Desk at <u>AEB@london.gov.uk</u>. You can also contact your GLA Provider Manager.

What is the EAS?

- The EAS is a comma separated value (CSV) data collection. You can submit the EAS to the <u>Submit Learner Data</u> website to record some types of funding that you cannot report in the Individualised Learner Record (ILR).
- 7.

Under most circumstances, you should not need to submit an EAS as you should record your learner data in the ILR. However, in some exceptional cases where you cannot record data in your ILR to receive your funding, you can use the EAS. In other cases, we will require you to use EAS.

8. We describe the format and content of the EAS, and the circumstances when you may or are required to use the EAS, in this guidance.

- 9. For a complete understanding of how the funding system works in practice, please read this document along with the following documents:
- GLA AEB Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules
- GLA AEB Funding Rates and Formula
- GLA AEB Technical Guidance Note
- Individualised Learner Record (ILR) specification, validation rules and appendices
- ESFA Earnings Adjustment Statement guidance

Can I claim funding for our learners?

- 10. You can use the EAS to adjust your funding in the following scenarios. Please consult the corresponding funding rules for further details on the eligibility for this funding through EAS:
 - 10.1. You have learners that require 'Excess Learning Support' above the value of £150 a month of learning support which is generated by calculations from ILR data.
 - 10.2. You have learners that require 'Learner Support'. This is split into several subcategories of Learner Support within the EAS.
 - 10.3. You have learners enrolled on learning aims within the 'Princes Trust' team programme and are claiming additional funding to the programme rate.
 - 10.4. We have written to you to give authorisation to make an 'Authorised Claim'.
- 11. GLA eligibility for these scenarios is different to national eligibility with respect to Learner Support. From 2023/24 academic year, all GLA-funded providers are required to report Learner Support funding in the EAS.

When must I use the EAS?

12. In exceptional cases, we may ask you to repay funding, for example following an audit. In these cases, you must enter a negative adjustment on your EAS.

General guidance for creating your EAS

- 13. Under most circumstances, your EAS should only contain funding where you have recorded your ILR data correctly, but it has not been possible to calculate all funding from that data. You may only use your EAS in cases where you have recorded your ILR data incorrectly if you have received written approval to do so from us.
- 14. Your EAS is a cumulative return each EAS you submit within a funding year should add to the contents of the previous file you submitted, unless you need to remove something to make a correction. If you do not include the contents that you previously submitted, we will recover the funding and only generate earnings for the contents of your current file.
- 15. Your EAS return is not learner based, so you do not need to return a row for each learner for whom you are claiming or repaying funding. You must aggregate the funding into different categories.
- 16. You must also ensure you have supporting evidence for each claim you make.

How do I submit data on my EAS?

- 17. Your submission must be a csv file, following the instructions in the next section. You must upload the CSV to the <u>Submit Learner Data</u> website.
- 18. The Submit Learner Data website will produce validation reports shortly after you have submitted your file. Please check these validation reports to ensure there are no validation errors, which would cause some or all of your file to be rejected. For more information on validation, see paragraph 43 and subsequent paragraphs.
- 19. Your file must use the format shown in the example file: <u>View the example CSV</u> <u>file</u>
- 20. Please take care to use the exact field names you see in the file otherwise your submission will be rejected, and you will not earn the funding from that file.
- 21. You must collect all your EAS data together to submit as a single file.
- 22. The adjustments in your EAS always represent activity at the point in time when they took place. The evidence you hold for the activity, including when it happened, should match the data you record in your EAS.

- 23. You only need to add rows to your file for the claims you are making in the CalendarMonth and CalendarYear when the activity took place. You do not need a row for each FundingLine, or each AdjustmentType each month.
- 24. In each row in your CSV file you should use a unique combination of FundingLine, AdjustmentType, CalendarMonth, CalendarYear and DevolvedAreaSourceOfFunding as shown in the example below.

	A	8	C	D	E	F
1	FundingLine	AdjustmentType	CalendarYear	CalendarMonth	Value	DevolvedAreaSourceOfFunding
2	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Excess Learning Support	2023	12	1.29	116
3	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Princes Trust	2023	8	1.29	116
4	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support 19+ Hardship	2024	4	1.29	116
5	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support 20+ Childcare	2023	9	1.29	116
6	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support Residential Access Fund	2024	5	1.29	116
7	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support IT devices and connectivity costs	2023	10	1.29	116
8	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support Administration Expenditure	2024	6	1.29	116
9	Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Authorised Claims	2024	3	-1.29	116
10	NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Excess Learning Support	2023	8	1.29	116
11	NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support 19+ Hardship	2024	3	1.29	116
12	NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support 20+ Childcare	2023	9	1.29	116
13	NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support Residential Access Fund	2024	4	1.29	116
14	NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support IT devices and connectivity costs	2023	10	1.29	116
15	NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Learner Support Administration Expenditure	2024	5	1.29	116
16	NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Authorised Claims	2024	2	-1.29	116
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- 25. When you add a new adjustment, you should create a separate row of data if any one of the fields above is different for that adjustment compared to existing rows in your file. If the fields for an adjustment are the same as an existing row, you should amend the Value in that row to reflect the total of all adjustments corresponding to those 5 fields. You only need to send a new file if there have been changes or additions since the last file you sent.
- 26. Each CSV file you submit will overwrite the last one you submitted; therefore, the file needs to include all the data you submit for your organisation for the current funding year not just the period that you are submitting data in:
- 27. You must continue to submit any data you previously submitted, as this is a year-to-date collection, unless you discover an error in that data, which you must delete or correct as appropriate.
- 28. If you submit an EAS with a previous month's data removed, we will recover any payments from you relating to that removed data.
- 29. Here are some examples

Example 1: Deleting a single claim

You have submitted a row of data in your EAS for a 'LearnerSupport' adjustment in R03, but by R04 you discover the learner it was intended for had left prior to this claim, so you claimed the funding in error. In your R04 return, you would simply delete the row of data from your EAS and submit the file to delete that adjustment and repay the funding.

Example 2: Deleting all your claims

You have submitted several rows of data in your EAS for 'LearnerSupport' adjustments in R03 relating to a single learner, but your EAS contains no other data. By R04 you discover the learner it was intended for had never started their learning, so you claimed the funding in error. In your R04 return, you would simply delete all the rows of data from your file, submitting a file containing only the field headings to delete all your adjustments and repay the funding.

- 30. If you need to change or add EAS values for a previous calendar month, you need to include these changes in your latest CSV file along with values for the latest month. For instance, the EAS files you submit at R04 could include rows with CalendarMonths from 8 to 11, representing August to November. At R05, your EAS could include rows with CalendarMonths from 8 to 12, representing August to December.
- 31. The validation rules will prevent you returning data for calendar months after the month relating to the current collection.

For example, the R06 collection in the 2023 to 2024 year is open until 6 February 2024, but the latest calendar month which may be returned in an R06 EAS file is calendar month 1 (January) in calendar year 2024.

32. You should only return records for delivery that has taken place within the associated funding year.

For example, you can submit an EAS for the 2023 to 2024 year any time up to the close of R14 in October 2024, but it must only relate to activity that took place in the 2023 to 2024 funding year between August 2023 and July 2024.

When to submit your EAS

- 33. The EAS operates within a funding year alongside the ILR. There are 14 'returns' in a year where you can submit your EAS, which follow the ILR collection timetable.
- 34. For collections R01 to R12, you must submit your EAS by the 4th working day of each month:
 - for R13, you must submit your EAS by 16 September 2024
 - for R14, you must submit your EAS by 17 October 2024

- 35. Your EAS claims will also be included as part of your Funding Claim earnings.
- 36. You need to ensure your EAS claims are up to date by the ILR return date before each of the Funding Claim return dates in 2023 to 2024 (<u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-funding-claims</u>):
 - by R06 for the Mid-year claim
 - by R10 for the Year-end claim
 - by R14 for the Final claim
- 37. You need to submit all ILR and EAS data by the final R14 collection date so that we can calculate the correct amount to pay you for the year.

Naming your CSV file

38. Your file must follow these naming guidelines for the Submit Learner Data system to accept your EAS submission.

Must end with the .csv file extension and follow this format

EASDATA-LLLLLLL-yyyymmdd-hhnnss.csv where:

- L = UK provider reference number (UKPRN) this must be 8 characters
- y = year at file creation
- m = month at file creation
- d = day at file creation
- h = hour at file creation
- n = minute at file creation
- s = second at file creation

EAS data validation

There are 3 stages in validating a file; file level, field definition and validation rules. For further information, please refer to the <u>EAS data validation rules</u>.

File level rules

39. If the file fails a file level error, the whole file will be rejected and this will be reported on the EAS Rule Violation Report. If this happens, an EAS Funding report will not be produced.

40. File level rules ensure the format of the file, and the filename are correct

Field definition rules

41. The fields within a file and the accepted characters in each field are shown in table 1.

Field Name	Data Type	Mandatory Field	Accepted Data
FundingLine	Varchar	Y	Controlled value list – see below
AdjustmentType	Varchar	Y	Controlled value list – see below
CalendarYear	Integer	Y	2023, 2024
CalendarMonth	Integer	Y	1-12
Value	Decimal	Y	Made up of digits from 0- 9, optionally one decimal point, and optionally a minus sign
DevolvedAreaSourceOfFunding	Integer	Y	116 required for GLA- funded delivery

Table 1: EAS field definitions

Validation rules

- 42. If any part of a record fails the validation rules, the record will be rejected with an error. Validation warnings will be produced where the data is unusual or where the data is allowed under certain circumstances. Records that produce warnings will be loaded into the national database, however you should check these records to ensure the data is correct.
- 43. A record within a file must be unique to pass the field definition rules. For GLAfunded delivery this is identified using the combination of these fields: FundingLine, AdjustmentType, CalendarYear, CalendarMonth and DevolvedAreaSourceOfFunding.
- 44. You can access the validation rules on gov.uk.

Field-by-field guidance for completing your EAS submission

- 45. All fields are mandatory including, for delivery funded by the GLA or any other devolved authority, DevolvedAreaSourceOfFunding.
- 46. Following the guidance from the field definition validation, you should start out constructing your file as a csv, with the first row of data containing each of the listed field names, as shown in the following example.

A	A	В	с	D	E	F	G	н
1	FundingLine	AdjustmentType	CalendarYear	CalendarMonth	Value	DevolvedAreaSourceOfFunding		(
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								

You should then fill out each subsequent row with data in each field that complies with each of the following sections.

FundingLine

- 47. The 'FundingLine' is a description of the type of learning delivery for which you have an agreement to receive GLA funding. This is usually made up of a funding model and an agreement type.
- 48. Table 2 shows all the FundingLines you can claim GLA funding for as you should enter them in your EAS.

Table 2: GLA-relevant	funding lines	in the EAS
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Funding Line	GLA Funding Agreement Type
Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	AEB Grant
Adult Education - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (procured)	Jobs and Skills for Londoners
NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	AEB Grant

NSF Free Courses for Jobs - Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (procured)	Jobs and Skills for Londoners
Short Term Funding Initiative 1 - 4	Unassigned categories - not valid for use unless specifically instructed

49. For details of other FundingLines relevant to any non-GLA funded delivery, please refer to the <u>national EAS guidance</u>.

AdjustmentType

- 50. The 'AdjustmentType' is a description of the type of additional funding you want to claim through your EAS that cannot otherwise by claimed on your ILR.
- 51. Table 3 shows which AdjustmentTypes can be claimed for each FundingLine for your GLA-funded delivery, as you should enter them in your EAS. Where multiple similar FundingLines are eligible for the same AdjustmentTypes, we have clustered them together.

Table 3: GLA-relevant valid adjustment types

FundingLines	Valid AdjustmentTypes	Valid for use
Adult Education - Eligible for	Excess Learning Support	Valid
MCA/GLA funding (non- procured)	Authorised Claims	Valid
	Princes Trust	Valid
	Learner Support 19+ Hardship	Valid
	Learner Support 20+ Childcare	Valid
	Learner Support Residential Access Fund	Valid
	Learner Support IT devices and connectivity costs	Valid
	Learner Support Administration Expenditure	Valid

	MCA/GLA Defined Adjustment 1 - 6	Unassigned - not valid for use unless instructed
Adult Education - Eligible for	Excess Learning Support	Valid
MCA/GLA funding (procured)	Authorised Claims	Valid
	Learner Support 19+ Hardship	Valid
	Learner Support 20+ Childcare	Valid
	Learner Support Residential Access Fund	Valid
	Learner Support IT devices and connectivity costs	Valid
	Learner Support Administration Expenditure	Valid
	MCA/GLA Defined Adjustment 1 - 6	Unassigned - not valid for use unless instructed
NSF Free courses for Jobs -	Excess Learning Support	Valid
Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (non-procured)	Authorised Claims	Valid
NSF Free courses for Jobs -	Learner Support 19+ Hardship	Valid
Eligible for MCA/GLA funding (procured)	Learner Support 20+ Childcare	Valid
	Learner Support Residential Access Fund	Valid
	Learner Support IT devices and connectivity costs	Valid
	Learner Support Administration Expenditure	Valid
	MCA/GLA Defined Adjustment	Unassigned - not

	1 - 6	valid for use unless instructed
Short Term Funding Initiative 1 - 4	Authorised Claims	Unassigned - not valid for use unless instructed

52. For details of other Adjustment Types relevant to any non-GLA funded delivery, please refer to the <u>national EAS guidance</u>.

Excess Learning Support

- 53. You can claim up to £150 of learning support a month through the ILR to support the delivery of a learning aim.
- 54. You can claim Excess Learning Support through the EAS to supplement this if the cost of reasonable adjustments to deliver a learning aim exceeds £150 a month.

For example, the monthly rate of £150 for learning support in the ILR is enough to cover reasonable adjustment costs for a learning aim for each delivery month, except September when there is an extra one-off cost of £100. To claim this excess, you record £100 of Excess Learning Support in your EAS for September.

55. There is an exception to this approach. If planned learning is less than one month you can claim the entire cost of the learning support through the EAS, instead of just the excess.

When you can claim enough learning support funding through the ILR, you should not use the EAS. We expect you to use the EAS only when there is no alternative method to claim the funding.

For example, a learner needs support for 2 months only; £100 in the first month and £200 in the second month equalling £300 in total. We expect you only to claim for two monthly payments of £150 in the ILR to cover the total cost; we do not expect you to claim £50 excess in the second month.

56. You can find further information on when you may claim learning support, and evidence requirements in the funding rules matching the learning delivery you are claiming for (see paragraph 9 for the hyperlinks to these documents).

Learner Support

- 57. From academic year 2023/24, all GLA-funded providers are required to use the EAS to claim Learner Support funding. This includes grant-funded providers paid on profile and those paid on the actual value of their delivery.
- 58. Learner support is split into the 5 following types:
 - 58.1. Learner Support 19+ Hardship
 - 58.2. Learner Support 20+ Childcare
 - 58.3. Learner Support Residential Access Fund
 - 58.4. Learner Support IT devices and connectivity costs
 - 58.5. Learner Support Administration Expenditure
- 59. You must not claim more than 5% of your total Learner Support final claim as administration expenditure.

Princes Trust

- 60. You can claim additional funding for Princes Trust qualifications above the qualification rate up to the value of the programme cost. For more information about the amounts you can claim, please refer to the <u>GLA AEB Funding Rates and Formula.</u>
- 61. The cost you can claim through the EAS is then calculated by subtracting the matrix funding rate for the aim from the maximum programme cost for the aim. This is shown as the <u>'maximum additional funding for'</u> in Table 3: Valid adjustment types.

EAS adjustment amount = maximum programme cost – matrix funding rate

- 62. Where the table in the GLA AEB Funding Rates and Formula shows 'N/A', you cannot claim additional funding through the EAS for the aim, as the maximum programme cost is already greater than the matrix funding rate for the aim from the ILR.
- 63. For information on which learners are eligible, please refer to the <u>GLA AEB</u> <u>Grant Funding and Performance Management Rules</u>.

Authorised Claims

- 64. An Authorised Claim is a generic adjustment to funding that you may request to make, or that you may be asked to make, where funding has not been correctly paid to you.
- 65. An Authorised Claim may only be recorded in your EAS with the prior approval of the GLA.
- 66. You may need to use this adjustment type if:
 - we have asked you to repay funding to us following an audit. You must enter any repayments as a **negative figure** (-xxxx.xx);
 - we have asked you to use it;
 - the funding rules identify an exception where you can use this category.
- 67. We will monitor the use of this adjustment type and may ask for the evidence of authorisation if we believe we have not authorised its use.
- 68. If errors have been identified in the <u>FRM27 post-16 monitoring report</u> for your GLA-funded delivery (because you recorded a withdrawal in the current ILR funding year, but the withdrawal date was in a previous ILR funding year), you can repay any funding overclaim through the EAS in-year. You do not need our permission to do this, however you must send the following information to <u>funding.monitoring@london.gov.uk</u> for the learners the repayment applies to: Academic year Reporting month Query ID.

Calendar Year

69. You must record the calendar year when the activity took place which this adjustment relates to. This could be different to the year you submit the data but must be within the current funding year. It should be 4 digits, for example 2023.

Calendar Month

70. You must record the calendar month when the activity took place which this adjustment relates to. This could be different to the month you submit the data but must, in combination with the Calendar Year, be within the current funding year. It should be up to 2 digits long, for example 5 for May or 12 for December.

Value

71. You need to enter the value of the adjustment being claimed using numbers and a decimal point only. You can record a positive number, for example 45.24, or negative number, for example -12.79.

Devolved Area Source of Funding

- 72. You must record a value in this field for all claims reported for delivery funded by the GLA or any other devolved authority, in addition to one of the applicable Funding Lines described in Table 3: GLA-relevant valid adjustment types.
- 73. You must record the Source of Funding (SOF) code 116 for any claims relating to provision funded by the GLA.
- 74. SOF code 116 must not be used for any claims relating to provision which is not funded by the GLA. For provision being funded by the ESFA you must leave this field blank. For provision being funded by other devolved authorities, the relevant SOF code for that authority should be used, based on definitions in the <u>ILR Specification for 2023 to 2024.</u>

When will you pay us?

- 75. We pay you monthly in arrears for all GLA-funded provision. We will add the extra funding you claim through the EAS to your ILR earnings. We will pay you each month at a funding agreement level.
- 76. We will make payments for R01 to R12 each month from September to August. We make R13 and R14 payments later in the year, depending on the FundingLine.

How much have I earned or repaid?

77. Once you submit a file successfully, 2 EAS specific reports will be generated for you from R01:

EAS Rule Violation Report (CSV) – this will show you any records with errors or warnings, for example, "The CalendarMonth must be in numbers, not letters".

EAS Funding Report (CSV) – this will show you all rows in your report that have passed validation, and consequently you may receive funding for.

78. A 'Funding Summary Report', a 'Devolved Adult Education Funding Summary Report' and an 'Adult Funding Claim Report' will be produced on the Submit Learner Data website. These show you your earnings for each funding line based on national funding rules and rates applied to your latest submitted ILR and EAS, from the ESFA and from devolved authorities respectively.

- 79. The GLA applies local funding rules after receipt of monthly ILR and EAS data from the ESFA and publishes a GLA Funding Summary Report ("GLA FSR") to the GLA <u>Skills Gateway</u> web portal. The GLA FSR represents the final value of earnings for your GLA-funded delivery based on GLA funding rules.
- 80. The GLA FSR shows data from the EAS under the appropriate funding line. The column 'Source' contains information enabling you to distinguish values generated from the 'EAS' from funding generated through the 'ILR'. The GLA FundingLine is also shown separately to the 'ESFA FundingLine', to enable you to distinguish Adult Education and NSF Free Courses for Jobs funding lines from those of other potentially applicable GLA-funded programmes, e.g. Skills Bootcamps.
- 81. The funding in your GLA FSR is shown by months, which relate to when you earned the funding, not when we pay you for it.
- 82. In cases where a file level validation error is encountered that prevents further processing of your submitted EAS file, the EAS Rule Violation Report will be the only report produced on the Submit Learner Data website for that submission.
- 83. You will receive no funding for data in your EAS file that fails validation. You should make every effort to resolve the errors and warnings shown in your rule violation report so that you receive all the funding you are claiming.