

Frequently asked questions

Question: What is the required eligibility for learners to attend a Multiply Course?

Answer: a learner must be a resident who lives within the West of England region (Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset), aged 19 and above on the start of learning, has not achieved a mathematics or numeracy qualification at level 2 (GCSE Maths or Functional Skills Level 2) or above.

Multiply programme will be following the same eligibility criteria as the current West of England Combined Authority Adult Education Performance Management Funding Rules: www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/employment-skills/funding-policies-guidance/

Question: If a learner already has a GCSE in maths, but has forgotten everything, can they still do the course?

Answer: Multiply is targeted at those adults who do not yet have a L2 maths qualification because we know that learners achieving a L2 maths qualification saw their wages increase by on average 13.7% and were 10% more likely to be in work after seven years, compared to those who do not. The L2 or below criteria will also support us to measure achievement through Multiply.

Question: Are people from Hong Kong with a British National Overseas (BNO) passport eligible for the Multiply programme?

Answer: The BNO visa is specific to Hong Kong nationals overseas. As Hong Kong is not part of the British Overseas Territories, individuals with this visa must still meet the 3-year ordinary residence rules in the UK – in the same way as other UK nationals – before being eligible for funding.

Question: What is the policy in relation to learners who may have a international qualifications above a level 2?

Answer: Learning Providers must undertake a NARIC comparison for the qualification achieved to determine if it's a level 2.

Question: Is the eligibility for participants subject to the employer's postcode or the learner's postcode?

Answer: Learners must be a resident of the West of England region, Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset. All Multiply provision delivery should be based within the West of England region.

Question: when does the year 1 funding complete?

Answer: 31st March 2023, any unspent funding will not roll forward to the next year.

Question: Which sectors are we interested in for employers?

Answer: The sectors we are interested in supporting are those outlined in the priority indicator document.

Question: how to monitor participants who have increased their confidence in their numeracy skills and ready to move on to further learning and completing a Level 1/2 in numeracy?

Answer: Currently we don't have a prescribed route, we are looking for providers to demonstrate how they will achieve this.

Question: Are the specifications for target participants, such as they should be unemployed and inactive for 6 months, strictly the only eligible participants to join the programme?

Answer: Eligibility criteria and participant we are looking target are outline in the specification document.

Question: Is there a minimum contract spend?

Answer: No, there is no minimum contract value.

Question: Is this general funding?

Answer: This is not general funding and can only be used to deliver specific output and outcomes of the Multiply Programme.

Question: Is there a syllabus or guidance to deliver this programme?

Answer: For the first year of delivery there is no syllabus or guidance. We are looking for providers to demonstrate how they plan to deliver the outputs and outcomes of the programme in the West of England.

Question: Department for Education plan to launch a Digital platform, how will this link with Multiply?

Answer: We are not currently aware of the full details; we are aware it will be anticipated to launch in January - March 2023. We will provide more details as we receive them.

Question: Are we looking for online delivery?

Answer: We do not want only online delivery, we are happy to accept applications with a blended delivery, however there should be an explanation on how this will have the impact that the programme requires and support progression of the participant.

Question: If we do not know our exact delivery locations at this stage of development what should we put in the application documentation.

Answer: Providers should submit your best understanding of where provision will be delivered to enable us to understand the potential spread of provision across the West of England. We are aware that providers may wish to alter their delivery locations to respond to need, we can discuss this with successful applicants as and when this issue arises.

Question: Can the privacy notice be shortened?

Answer: This document cannot be shortened or simplified as it is a statutory document.

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Question: What evidence of prior level 2 qualifications is required?

Answer: There is no set requirement for evidence of prior qualifications. As with other funding streams, local areas will want to assure themselves that they are maintaining learner records in line with local assurance frameworks.

Question: Will there be a branding pack? Can we use the DfE's 'Multiply' logo?

Answer: A communications toolkit and branding guidelines are available through this link here: [Multiply campaign: brand guidelines and logos - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/103442/multiply_campaign_brand_guidelines_and_logos.pdf)