

# The National Careers Service course directory is changing

As part of the measures to make the course directory easier for providers to add their course information, providers will see: a new simple interface, fewer fields to complete and mandatory learning aim reference (LAR) codes.

The changes will also make information more relevant for potential learners so they can find out what is on offer in their area and contact providers.

ESFA has developed the new improved course directory by putting user research central to the changes that have been made. They have tailored the tools through rigorous testing by real users.

The [Course Directory](#) is a database comprising records of learning opportunities for people over the age of 16 delivered by all providers contracted with Department for Education.

Providers are responsible for maintaining their records in the Course Directory and the records are displayed through Find a Course, Find Apprenticeship Training and other public and private sector websites. This enables citizens and businesses to look for different types of learning in their area and generates referrals to providers across the country.

Providers will be contacted in the next couple of months to let them know when changes will be happening and to help them manage the changes to their information. In the meantime, the support team are on hand to help and to answer any questions on [support@coursedirectoryproviderportal.org.uk](mailto:support@coursedirectoryproviderportal.org.uk) or 0844 811 5073.

Changes to the course directory are part of a wider programme of improvement to digital services provided by the National Careers Service.

The National Careers Service is available to anyone over the age of 13 in England and provides careers advice and guidance to help people make decisions on learning, training and work.

The National Careers Service takes a digital first approach to allow users who are able, to self-serve and find the information they need. We work closely with teachers, careers advisers and citizens to ensure our tools can be used both independently and part of face to face careers sessions.