

Trailblazer funding - does it stack up?

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57 standards 'ready to deliver' as at 20/10/15

| Standards so far 'ready to deliver' by CGC (max cap) | | | + Cash fee = Max income | |
|--|-----------|-----|-------------------------|---------|
| £2,000 | 1 | 2% | £1,000 | £3,000 |
| £3,000 | 3 | 5% | £1,500 | £4,500 |
| £6,000 | 16 | 28% | £3,000 | £9,000 |
| £8,000 | 7 | 12% | £4,000 | £12,000 |
| £18,000 | 30 | 53% | £9,000 | £27,000 |
| Total | 57 | | | |

And employer incentive can be up to a further £10,800 (so SFA pay up to £28,800)

Boles and Javid say per standard all are more costly than frameworks

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So does the funding stack up?

For the majority of apprenticeship standards 'ready to deliver' so far, provider income would be up to £27,000

So on face of it plenty of funding, but...

Fee comes before funding. Employer has to pay £9,000 before you can earn the extra £18,000

When setting a fee, have you considered the cost of training and assessment. What if assessment fees alone were £4k?

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Digital services (networking and software)

L4, CGC £18,000 + £9,000 fee = £27,000 max income

“Our aim is that assessment costs will be 10-15% of the total cost of the apprenticeship.”

£2,700? £4,050?

Just how much will providers have to pay per apprentice for this?

How much of a monopoly on assessment will the Tech Partnership have?

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Public Service Operational Delivery Officer

L3, CGC £2,000 + £1,000 fee = £3,000 max income

Basically, business admin for the public sector. Big numbers

Quals and independent assessment costs

- > Level 2 Award in Operational Delivery (Principles) - 3 units
- > Level 3 Certificate in Operation Delivery (Advanced) - 5 units
- > End-point assessment involving four assessment tools: a showcase portfolio of evidence; a work-based project; a presentation to a panel (“**moderated by independent assessment organisation**”); and an interview.

Assessment does not look cheap in return for only £3,000 when you also have to deliver the training...

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Other assessment costs to consider...

- > Who will pay for apprentice to travel to assessment centre?
- > Who will pay for overnight accommodation for apprentice at assessment centre (five day assessment for digital industries)?
- > Who will pay for a resits?

FUNDING MIGHT LOOK GOOD, BUT CAN YOU EVEN AFFORD TO SET TRAILBLAZER FEES AND START APPRENTICES WITHOUT KNOWING YOUR COSTS, AND WHO IS PAYING FOR WHAT?

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So what can you do now about this?

Seek out assessment cost clarity from awarding bodies and other assessment orgs, and negotiate hard

Remind employers that the completion incentive is to pay for releasing the apprentice for the end-point assessment

Make it clear in the employer fee negotiation or price, how much is paid straight out to assessment bodies (and you are meant to record this in the ILR at the start)

You (and/or AELP) may even want to formally feedback to BIS if you feel assessment plans are unnecessarily expensive

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See you in March 2016?



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