**LDCS SLD Collection**

For the 23/24 academic year providers who are registered with the Office for Students (OfS) who submit ILR data (excluding providers who already submit data on the HESA collection), there is an extra return on the Submit Learner Data portal for providers to submit the HE course LDCS data for all learning above a level 4. This data was previously captured on the ILR at aim level, however this collection is concentrating on course level information. The subject of study of HE students is critical to various areas of the OfS’s work, including monitoring compliance against the regulatory conditions, calculation of funding and general analysis.

Providers logging onto the Submit Learner Data (SLD) portal will be presented with a new option for the LDCS Learning Directory Classification System collection and its status.

A CSV file is then used to collect the following information which relates to the previously captured ILR fields “LDCS” that appeared in the 2022/2023 ILR Specification. Unlike the previous ILR collection, this new collection captures the percentage taught in the first, second and third Learn Direct Classification System fields held in LARS against each learning aim for the individual course and a return should be made when an applicable learner is entered into the ILR. Providers will be notified on the LDCS collection if a learner has not been submitted which has an ILR submission record.

Campus Identifier (cell A)

* Name: CampID
* Field length: 8
* Field values: ([A-Za-z0-9]{1,8})

Learning Aim Reference Number (cell B)

* Name: LearnAimRef
* Field Length: 8
* Field values: ([A-Za-z0-9]{1,8})

Percentage Taught in First LDCS Subject (Cell C)

* Name: PCFLDCS
* Field Length: 5
* Field Values: 0 – 100.0

Percentage Taught in Second LDCS Subject (Cell D)

* Name: PCSLDCS
* Field Length: 5
* Field Values: 0 – 100.0

Percentage Taught in Third LDCS Subject (Cell E)

* Name: PCTLDCS
* Field Length: 5
* Field Values: 0 – 100.0

A submission using the new collection is required for the current academic year before submitting an ILR file, however providers can upload updated files during the academic year if required. The file is a .csv file with the file name in the following format:

* ukprn-LDCS-timestamp.csv

The filename must be in the agreed following format: LLLLLLLL-LDCS-YYYY-yyyymmdd-hhmmss.csv Where: LLLLLLLL is the UK provider reference number (UKPRN) , LDCS is fixed text, YYYY is the academic year matching the return period the file is being submitted against and yyyymmdd-hhmmss is Date/time stamp

**Notes**

Where multiple campus sites exist, there is a possibility the percentage breakdown of the LDCS information may differ for the same Learning Aim i.e. same course maybe delivered differently. By collecting this information, we can capture where this is the case. The campus Identifier (Campid) should be recorded with the relevant code for the relevant campus further information can be found in the ILR spec regarding how this field is returned.

The judgement of the percentages taught in each LDCS subject should be made for the course as a whole.

Percentage taught in the first LDCS subject should relate to the course as a whole taught in the LDCS subject area returned in the first LDCS subject field in the LARS database for the learning aim linked to in the learning aim field for this learning aim. Similarly, percentage taught in the second and third LDCS should relate to the fields second LDCS and third LDCS respectively.

**Using the LARS Download**

Using the LARS LearningDelivery Table from the LARS download you can identify the percentages required against the LearnDirectClassSystemCode fields, it is expected that the CSV submitted to the new collection will contain the relevant percentages taught for that course being delivered.

The code 1 field refers to the Percentage taught in first LDCS subject, code 2 the second and code 3 the third. Where a null value has been show in the reference data against the learning aim in all three code fields, there is no requirement to submit the aim on the CSV file.

**LDCS validation**

The LDCS collection has its own set of validation rules which are shown below, these are File level, Field Definition rules and business rules and can be used to assist in correcting errors with the LDCS CSV collection.