

Office for  
Students



# **ILR 2017-18 Data Checking Tool:**

**2017-18 Graduate Outcomes target list technical document and algorithms**

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## Purpose

1. This document describes the method used to generate the target list of students to be included in the 2017-18 Graduate Outcomes (GO) survey. Institutions should use the target list output as an indication of which students will be surveyed as part of the 2017-18 GO. We encourage institutions to check the GO target list outputs provided. The final ILR R14 data, submitted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), will be used to generate the final target list of students eligible to participate in the survey. The final target list will be produced in November by the Office for Students and passed to HESA who will manage and deliver the survey. This will be the final GO target list for providers, and only students on the final target list will be surveyed.

2. This document is aimed at readers with in-depth knowledge of the data. Readers are advised to have a copy of 'Specification of the Individualised Learner Record for 2017/18' (available from

the ESFA via <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ilr-specification-validation-rules-and-appendices-2017-to-2018>) to hand when using this document.

3. Throughout this document, fields taken from the ILR or derived as part of the target list are shown in capitals using the names given in Tables 1 and 2 respectively.

4. OfS staff will access data relating to GO target lists.

## Using the individualised file

5. When working through this document it is necessary to use the individualised file GO17\_DCT\_FXXXXXXXXX\_IND.csv, (where XXXXXXXXX is the UK Provider Reference Number (UKRPN) for the institution). Full details of how to access this file are given on the Office for Students website ([www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/supplying-data/working-with-individualised-files/](http://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/supplying-data/working-with-individualised-files/)). This document will show, where relevant, details of why students were excluded from the target list.

**Table 1 Fields used to generate the target list**

Name	Description	Data set	Column in individualised file*
AIMSEQNUMBER <sup>†</sup>	Learning aim data set sequence	ILR	C
CONTPREFCODE	Contact preference code	ILR	See Table 2
ENG_LEVE	England FE/HE status	LARS	V
LEARNACTENDDATE	Learning actual end date	ILR	X
LEARNAIMREF <sup>†</sup>	Learning aim reference	ILR	L
LEARNREFNUMBER	Learner reference number	ILR	B
LEARNSTARTDATE	Learning start date	ILR	W
NUMHUS	Learner instance number	ILR	D
OUTCOME	Learning outcome	ILR	Y
PROVSPECDELMON	Provider-specified learning aim data	ILR	See Table 2
PROVSPECDELMONOCUR	The occurrence of provider-specified learning aim data	ILR	See Table 2
PROVSPECLEARNMON <sup>†</sup>	Provider-specified learner data	ILR	See Table 2

PROVSPECLEARNMONOCCUR <sup>†</sup>	The occurrence of provider-specified learner data	ILR	See Table 2
STULOAD	Learner FTE	ILR	U
UKPRN	UK provider reference number	ILR	A
ULN <sup>†</sup>	Unique learner number	ILR	E

\* The individualised file GO17\_DCT\_FXXXXXXXXX\_IND.csv, downloadable from the OfS portal (see <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/supplying-data/submitted-data-through-the-ofs-portal/>).

<sup>†</sup> These fields are not used to generate the target list but are included in the individualised file to allow easy identification of students.

## Description of derived fields

6. Here we give details of the derived fields contained in the individualised file.

**Table 2 Derived fields**

Field name	Description	Paragraph <sup>†</sup>	Column in individualised file*
CENSUS	December, March, June or September survey indicator	8	S
CONTPREF_RUI1	Contact preference code	9	Z
CONTPREF_RUI2	Contact preference code	9	AA
GOEXCL	Reason for exclusion from 2017-18 GO target list	15-16	M
GOEXCL1 – GOEXCL32	Reason(s) for a learning aim's exclusion	10-14	N-R
HEFQAIM <sup>†</sup>	Recognised HE qualification aim	20	T
PROVSPECLEARNMON_A PROVSPECLEARNMON_B	Provider-specified learner data	17	F-G
PROVSPECDELMON_A PROVSPECDELMON_B PROVSPECDELMON_C PROVSPECDELMON_D	Provider-specified learning aim data	18	H-K

\* The individualised file GO17\_DCT\_FXXXXXXXXX\_IND.csv, downloadable from the OfS portal (see <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/supplying-data/submitted-data-through-the-ofs-portal/>).

<sup>†</sup> The algorithms for deriving these fields are given in the 'HEIFES17 re-creation algorithms' (see the 'HEIFES17 re-creation technical document'); the paragraph references refer to the HEIFES document.

## **Students with multiple records**

7. Students with more than one record eligible for the inclusion in the Graduate Outcomes survey will be invited to participate in the survey for each census they are eligible. Students with more than one record who have LEARNACTENDDATES in different census periods will be eligible to complete the survey for each of those census periods. Students with more than one record who have LEARNACTENDDATES in the same census period will be invited to complete the survey only once for that census period. In this case we choose the most appropriate record to include, the selection method is described in paragraph 14.

## CENSUS (Column S)

8. This field indicates which survey the student may be included in according to their learning actual end date.

Value	Description	Definition
DEC	December 2018 survey	LEARNACTENDDATE ≥ 1 August 2017 and LEARNACTENDDATE ≤ 31 October 2017
MAR	March 2019 survey	LEARNACTENDDATE ≥ 1 November 2017 and LEARNACTENDDATE ≤ 31 January 2018
JUN	June 2019 survey	LEARNACTENDDATE ≥ 1 February 2018 and LEARNACTENDDATE ≤ 30 April 2018
SEP	September 2019 survey	LEARNACTENDDATE ≥ 1 May 2018 and LEARNACTENDDATE ≤ 31 July 2018
Blank	Otherwise	Otherwise

## CONTREF\_RUI1, CONTREF\_RUI2 (Columns Z-AA)

9. These fields contain the values of CONTREFCODE. If more than one CONTREFCODE was returned for an individual, CONTREF\_RUI2 contains the second.

### GOEXCL1 (Column N)

10. This field indicates that the student is excluded because they are studying for a foundation degree bridging course, non-recognised HE qualification aim or FE qualification aim.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Foundation degree bridging course, non-recognised HE qualification aim, or FE qualification aim	HEFQAIM = FDBC, OTHER
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

### GOEXCL2 (Column O)

11. This field indicates that the student is excluded because the learning outcome was not fully achieved.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Learning outcome not fully achieved	OUTCOME ≠ 1, 8
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

### GOEXCL8 (Column P)

12. This field indicates that the student is excluded because they were inactive during the academic year.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Student inactive	STULOAD = 0, BLANK
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

### GOEXCL16 (Column Q)

13. This field indicates that the student is excluded as they are not to be contacted - learner has died.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Learner is not to be contacted - learner has died or is seriously ill	CONTPREF_RUI1 = 4, 5 or CONTPREF_RUI2 = 4, 5
0	Otherwise	Otherwise

### GOEXCL32 (Column R)

14. Student has another record eligible for inclusion in the GO. Where there is more than one record for a given LEARNREFNUMBER where GOEXCL1 = 0 and GOEXCL2 = 0 and GOEXCL8 = 0 and GOEXCL16 = 0 then only one is included in the GO target population. This selected record will have GOEXCL32 = 0 and all others GOEXCL32 = 1. We select records by highest qualification level, lowest value of OUTCOME, earliest LEARNSTARTDATE and lowest value of AIMSEQNUMBER.



## GOEXCL (Column M)

15. This field indicates whether the student is included in the 2017-18 GO population. For students excluded from the population, GOEXCL contains the sum of all applicable values from the table below. Students included in the target list have GOEXCL = 0.

Value	Description	Definition
1	Student excluded because they are studying for a foundation degree bridging course, non-recognised HE qualification aim or FE qualification aim	GOEXCL1 = 1
2	Student is excluded because the learning outcome was not fully achieved	GOEXCL2 = 1
8	Student excluded because they were inactive	GOEXCL8 = 1
16	Student is excluded as they are not to be contacted - learner has died or is seriously ill	GOEXCL16 = 1
32	Student is excluded as they have another record eligible for inclusion in the GO	GOEXCL32 = 1

16. GOEXCL is calculated as  $(1 \times \text{GOEXCL1}) + (2 \times \text{GOEXCL2}) + (8 \times \text{GOEXCL8}) + (16 \times \text{GOEXCL16}) + (32 \times \text{GOEXCL32})$ . The reason(s) which contribute to the exclusion of a student from the GO population can therefore be calculated. For example, if GOEXCL = 10, by subtracting figures from the above table and starting at the bottom, we see that the student was inactive (GOEXCL8 = 1) and the student's learning outcome was not fully achieved (GOEXCL2 = 1).

**PROVSPECLEARNMON\_A, PROVSPECLEARNMON\_B (Columns F-G)**

17. These fields contain the value of PROVSPECLEARNMON where PROVSPECLEARNMONOCCUR = A or B respectively.

**PROVSPECDELMON\_A, PROVSPECDELMON\_B, PROVSPECDELMON\_C, PROVSPECDELMON\_D (Columns H-K)**

18. These fields contain the value of PROVSPECDELMON where PROVSPECDELMONOCCUR = A, B, C or D respectively.



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