



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

SFC GUIDANCE

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FES 2 Guidance Notes 2026–27



FES 2 Guidance Notes 2026–27

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Summary:	Guidance notes and code lists for completion of FES 2 student data: Academic year 2026–27
FAO:	College Finance Directors / MIS and Quality contacts of Scotland's colleges
Further Information:	EMAIL: datareturns@sfc.ac.uk

Table of Contents

Section 1	6
Revisions to the FES 2 data collection	6
Section 2	7
Coverage and timing of FES 2 data	7
Section 3	10
Notes and code lists for completion of FES 2	10
Batch header record	10
Student Support Funding	10
Code list A	28
Country of nationality of student	28
Code list B	40
Permanent home location (domicile of student)	40
Overseas countries	46
Code list C	53
Source of finance of fee for student	53
Code list D	57
Ethnic group	57
Code list E	59
Mode of attendance of student	59
Code list F	61
Other qualifications (qualifications held on entry)	61
Advanced qualification	61
Non-advanced qualification	61
Code list G	63
Category of student	63
Code list H	65
Disability allowance	65

Code list J	66
Student record outcome	66
Code list K	69
School code number	69
Code list M	70
Award Assessment category	70
Award Assessment Category Codes	70
Code list N	71
Groups of specific interest	71
Code list O	75
Qualification aim of student	75
Advanced qualifications (SCQF Level 7 and above)	75
Non-advanced qualifications (SCQF Level 6 and below)	75
Code list P	77
Sex of student	77
Code list Q	78
Sexual orientation of student	78
Code list R	79
Religion, religious denomination or body	79
Code list T	80
Target group	80
Code list U	81
Gender Identity and Trans Status of student	81
Code list W	82
Pregnancy and maternity	82
Code list X	83
First or preferred language	83
Code list Y	84
Care-experienced student	84

Code list Z	85
Standard Industrial Classification codes.....	85
Code list AA	90
Standard Occupational Classification codes.....	90
Code list AB	95
Service student	95
Code list AC	96
Type of care setting	96
Code list AD	97
Reasons for withdrawal (RfW).....	97
Section 4	102
Submission of FES 2 returns	102
Physical characteristics for data files.....	102
File format	102
Batch header record.....	102
Further information	102
Appendix 1	103
Carer and caring responsibilities	103

Section 1

Revisions to the FES 2 data collection

Note: For reasons of data integrity and simplification of updates to FES, new fields (columns) will now be added to the end of the .dat file and obsolete columns will remain but will no longer need to be populated. This has the benefit of maintaining the integrity of current columns in the .dat file while still allowing FES revisions.

1. FES quarterly return deadline dates are updated for 2026-27.
2. Addition to the list of fields required for Skeletal Records in the 'Coverage and Timing' section
3. Two new 'Reason for Withdrawal' codes added to 'Notes and Code Lists for Completion in FES2', and to code list AD. A table has been added to this section to provide guidance on when to select particular 'Reason for Withdrawal' codes.
4. Code list O: additional qualification aim codes added to identify Next-Generation HNC and HND qualifications.
5. Code list R: new Religion, religious denomination or body code added, 'Pagan'.
6. Code list X: new 'First or preferred language' codes added, for the Scots and Shetland languages.

Section 2

Coverage and timing of FES 2 data

7. Full student FES 2 details are required for all fundable programmes and non-fundable Employability Fund (SDS) programmes irrespective of the programme duration or whether credits have been claimed if the student has attended at least once.
8. It is not necessary to collect full personal details of primary school pupils but if claiming credits then we require, as a minimum, school code and postcode plus the following personal details for each pupil, surname, forename, sex of student and date of birth. However, for secondary school pupils it is preferred that full personal details are collected for the purposes of ongoing monitoring under SFC's Outcomes Framework and Assurance Model and measurement of colleges, DYW, school, and college senior phase activity.
9. For non-fundable programmes, i.e., cost recovery programmes except for Associate Students and those funded via Skills Development Scotland where we require a full student record. We require a minimum 'skeletal' record for each student through FES, so the composition of the full cohort is accurate.
10. A 'skeletal' record for any student for other non-fundable (cost recovery) programmes (FES 1 code list C – codes 01, 02, 03, 04 & 10) will include information that colleges already routinely collect for administrative purposes, namely:
 - Forename(s).
 - Surname.
 - Sex of student.
 - Student date of birth.
 - Postcode of permanent home location.
 - Student matriculation number.
 - Enrolment Number.
 - Programme directory number.
 - Source of finance of fee for student.
 - Student outcome.
 - SQA candidate number (if available).
 - Category of student.
 - Start date of student.
 - End date of student.
 - Funding qualifying date of student.

11. In most cases there will be a difference between the FES 1 student count for a programme and the number of FES 2 records returned for that programme. This is because FES 2 details are to be returned for all students enrolled on fundable (and non-fundable new deal) programmes even if the student has failed to meet the attendance criteria in order to be eligible for funding. An example of this would be a student enrolls on a fundable programme. The student however withdraws from the programme before the funding qualifying date of the programme. The FES 2 for that student will be included in the FES 2 returns but not included in the FES 1 session count for the programme.
12. This does not affect any of the FES 1 Fields, the student count on FES 1 is still the number of enrolled students on a programme who meet the attendance requirements for funding eligibility (as in previous years).
13. Part-time students attending more than one programme should be recorded against each FES 1 programme. Colleges should ensure that FES 2 student details are recorded only once under each programme the student attends. Returns should not include the same student's record more than once on any one programme.
14. If a student is enrolled at one establishment for a major part of the programme but attends another establishment for classes in some subjects of that programme, they should be included only in the return from the establishment where a major part of the programme is provided.
15. The FES system links programme (FES 1) and student (FES 2) data via a unique programme directory number that is returned through FES 1. To allow this linkage, colleges are required to supply a batch header for each programme returned through FES 2 (see section 3 for details).
16. FES data is due for return to SFC by **1 October 2027** and covers all enrolments during the entire academic session (1 August 2026 to 31 July 2027).
17. The Quarterly return dates are as follows:
 - 1st Quarter – 6 November 2026.
 - 2nd Quarter – 5 February 2027.
 - 3rd Quarter – 25 June 2027.
 - Final Return – 1 October 2027.
18. SFC requests that, to enable timely monitoring of activity delivered against Credit targets, Colleges submit a minimum of one FES upload per month.
19. Colleges need to be aware that under the Data Protection Legislation they need to make students aware that the data they provide may be used by SFC (as well as other bodies

such as Scottish Government, Skills Development Scotland, Colleges Scotland, College Development Network and other organisations working for the benefit of the sector). Colleges should, therefore, have a privacy statement within their application / enrolment processes to advise students of how they will use and share their information. We have included a section for all colleges to include in their application / enrolment privacy statements regarding the sharing of data with SFC as below:

“Statistical personal information will be shared with the Scottish Funding Council to allow them to allocate appropriate funding to colleges in line with Scottish Government strategies and their statutory duties. For more information on how the Scottish Funding Council use your personal data please see their FE student privacy notice on their website [\[SFC Privacy Notices\]](#).”

20. Please note: Colleges are responsible for ensuring that any privacy notices are compliant with Data Protection Legislation, the above statement only covers processing in relation to data shared with the Scottish Funding Council. Colleges should ensure that their privacy statements cover all processing of student data in line with Data Protection Legislation.

Section 3

Notes and code lists for completion of FES 2

Batch header record

21. A batch header in the following format is required for each course requiring FES 2 data. This is then followed by the individual student records for the relevant programme:
- **XXXXXXXXFESYYYYYYZZZZ**
 - **Programme directory number = XXXXXXXX**
 - **Data collection = FES**
 - **College code number = YYYYYYY**
 - **Number of students = ZZZZ**
22. Complete for all students on fundable and non-fundable Skills Development Scotland (SDS) programmes irrespective of the duration of the programme.

Student Support Funding

23. The Student Support Funding entered for students in receipt should be actual expenditure at the time of the FES submission, rather than forecasted or committed expenditure.

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
1	Programme directory number	See FES 1 course field 1.	8	1-8
2	Surname	Surname of student (maximum 20 characters).	20	9-28
3	Name(s)	The forename(s) of student.	20	29-48
4	Student matriculation number	The college's unique student identifier.	20	49-68
5	SQA candidate number	Scottish candidate number as issued by SQA.	9	69-77
6	Student date of birth	Student date of birth (in the format: DDMMYYYY).	8	78-85
7	Sex of student	Sex of student (FES 2 code list P).	2	86-87
8	Gender Identity of student	This field is to enable students to indicate if their gender identity is the sex as registered to them at birth (FES 2 code list U).	1	88
9	Nationality of student	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	4	89-92
10	Permanent home location of student	Pre-study permanent home location of student (FES 2 code list B).	3	93-95

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
11	Post code of permanent home location (pre-study domicile of student)	Post code of pre-study permanent home location of student. Leave blank for overseas students. If the student is non-UK, then the post code should be left blank.	8	96-103
12	Student's main campus of study	Main campus for course / programme delivery (using college's own campus reference numbers).	6	104-109
13	Source of finance of fee for student	Main source of finance for student to pay his / her fees (FES 2 code list C).	2	110-111
14	Ethnic group	Ethnic background of student (FES 2 code list D).	2	112-113
15	Mode of attendance of student	Student mode of attendance (FES 2 code list E).	2	114-115
16	Qualification aim of student	Qualification aim of student (FES 2 code list O).	2	116-117
17	Category of student	Category of student (FES 2 code list G).	2	118-119
18	School code number	School code number (FES 2 code list K).	7	120-126
19	Disability allowance	Disabled students' allowance (FES 2 code list H). This field is only to be filled in by students on HE courses. For students on FE courses leave this field blank.	1	127

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
20	Student outcome	This field identifies the student's outcome from the programme / course they have been enrolled on. This field is used to assist in the central calculation of Performance Indicators. The terms withdrawn and completed are as defined for aggregate PIs not as defined for funding purposes (FES 2 code list J).	2	128-129
21	Number of Highers at A-C	Number of Highers (if more than nine enter nine) held on entry to present programme.	1	130
22	Number of A-levels at A-E	Number of A-levels at A-E (if more than nine enter nine) held on entry to present programme.	1	131
23	Number of other Nationals, Standard Grade, SCE, GCSE at 1-3 or A-C	Number of other Nationals, SG, SCE, GCSE at 1-3 or A-C (if more than nine enter nine) held on entry to present programme.	1	132
24	Number of other Nationals, Standard Grade, SCE, GCSE at 4-5 or D-E	Number of other Nationals, SG, SCE, GCSE at 4-5 or D-E (if more than nine enter nine) held on entry to present programme.	1	133
25	Number of National Units	Number of National Units (formerly National Certificate Modules) held on entry to present programme.	2	134-135

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
26	Other qualifications	Enter code from FES 2 code list F for highest qualification held on entry to present programme.	2	136-137
27	SCQF Level code	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	2	138-139
28	SQA group award	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	6	140-145
29	Student follow-up survey opt-out	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	1	146

Disability

30	Do you have a disability	Y=Yes, N=No	1	147
31	Learning difficulty (a specific learning condition that affects the way you learn and process information)	Y=Yes, N=No	1	148

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
32	Developmental disorder (a condition that you have had since childhood which affects motor, cognitive, social and emotional skills, and speech and language)	Y=Yes, N=No	1	149
33	Long-term illness, disease or condition (a condition, not listed above, that you may have for life, which may be managed with treatment or medication)	Y=Yes, N=No	1	150
34	Mental health condition (a condition that affects your emotional, physical and mental wellbeing)	Y=Yes, N=No	1	151
35	Physical disability (a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting, or carrying)	Y=Yes, N=No	1	152

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
36	Deafness or partial hearing loss	Y=Yes, N=No	1	153
37	Blindness or partial sight loss	Y=Yes, N=No	1	154
38	A disability impairment or medical condition that is not listed above	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	1	155
39	Learning disability (a condition that you have had since childhood that affects the way you learn, understand information and communicate)	Y=Yes, N=No	1	156

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
40	Planned Credits ¹	Generated for fundable students included in the FES 1 student count – number of Credits claimed against each. Please note: Credits for spanning programmes must only be noted in the academic year in which the course year ends for each year of the course (see FES 1 guidance notes). Credits should only be claimed for students eligible for funding.	6	157-162
41	Planned Credits equivalent	Generated only for non-fundable students included in the FES 1 student count (where 40 hours activity = 1 Credit). Ensure that for SDS funded (FES 1 Source of finance of programme - Code 05) courses that a 'planned credits equivalent' figure is in each student record.	6	163-168
42	Start date of student	Start date of student – the date on which the student first attended the programme (default is programme start date), in the format DDMMYYYY.	8	169-176

¹ FES 2 is collected for students who do not meet the attendance requirements and are therefore excluded from the FES 1 student count, for these students the Credits, and the Credits equivalent fields should all be 00.000.

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
43	End date of student	End date of student – the date on which the student attended his/her last meeting of the programme (default is the programme end date), in the format DDMMYYYY.	8	177-184
44	Funding Qualifying date of student	For full-time programmes the funding qualifying date is to be set at more than five weeks (5 weeks plus 1 day) from course start date. For other programmes the funding qualifying date will be set at the day on which 25% of the course calendar days have passed. The format DDMMYYYY is to be returned.	8	185-192
45	Enrolment number	This is a simple count from the first to last enrolment to be included within this FES return. A single student may have more than one enrolment number if they enrol on more than one programme. This field will be used to link the FES 2 student and FES 3 programme element data sets.	6	193-198
46	Tariff SUMs	Generate for students included in the FES 1 student count – number of Tariff SUMs for each student noted to three decimal places.	6	199-204
47	Target Group	This field is to highlight different student groups and associated funds. Enter appropriate code from (FES 2 code List T).	1	205

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
48	ESF student status prior to enrolling in college	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	2	206-207
49	ESF student qualification level held on entry (SCQF or equivalent level).	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	2	208-209
50	Groups of specific interest	This field is to identify students that are of specific interest to the Scottish Government (FES 2 code list N).	2	210-211
Student support funding information				
51	Maintenance group 1	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	2	212-213
52	Maintenance group 2	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	2	214-215
53	Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA)	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	1	216
54	Award assessment category (AAC)	FES 2 code list M.	1	217
55	Maintenance costs	The total maintenance (bursary) costs per student (in whole £s).	5	218-222

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
56	Dependents allowance	Total amount awarded for dependents allowance (in whole £s).	5	223-227
57	Study expenses allowance	Total amount awarded for study expenses allowance (in whole £s).	5	228-232
58	Travel expenses allowance	Total amount awarded for travel expenses allowance (in whole £s).	5	233-237
59	Special educational needs allowance	Total amount awarded for SEN allowance (in whole £s).	5	238-242
60	Total bursary expenditure	Total amount awarded to the student from the bursary fund; Maintenance (bursary) costs + Accommodation & Personal Residence costs + Dependents allowance + Study expenses + Travel expenses + Special Educational Needs allowance (in whole £s).	5	243-247
61	Total FE discretionary fund expenditure	Total amount awarded from the FE discretionary fund (in whole £s).	5	248-252
62	Childcare, lone parent award	Total amount awarded to student from the Childcare fund who is classified as a lone parent (in whole £s).	5	253-257
63	Childcare, other award	Total amount awarded to student from the childcare fund but is NOT classified as a lone parent (in whole £s).	5	258-262

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
64	Household income	This is being collected as part of the Scottish Government Post-16 reform programme (in whole £s).	6	263-268
65	Sexual orientation	Student's sexual orientation (FES 2 Code list Q).	1	269
66	Religion	Religion, religious denomination, or body (FES 2 Code list R).	2	270-271
67	Carer*	Does the student have caring responsibilities? Y=Yes, N=No	1	272
68	Caring responsibilities * (*see Appendix 1 for full details)	1 = Disabled child / children under 18. 2 = Child / children under 18. 3 = Adult(s) 18 and over. 4 = Prefer not to say.	1	273
69	Associate Student status	This field is to identify students from the HE guaranteed articulation places. This flag must only be applied to one HE-level enrolment per person: 0=Not Associate status, 1=Associate Student	1	274
70	Text	Use for explanations for example of warning errors.	256	275-530
71	Trans status of student	This field is to enable students to indicate if they have ever identified as a trans person (FES 2 code list U).	1	531

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
72	Student nationality	Country of nationality of student (FES 2 code list A).	2	532-533
73	Marriage/civil partnership status	Data no longer required but columns need to remain to maintain column integrity for upload.	1	534
74	Pregnancy and maternity	This field is to identify students currently pregnant or have been pregnant in the past year (FES 2 Code list W).	1	535
75	First or preferred language	This field is to identify a student's first or preferred language (FES 2 Code list X).	1	536
76	Care-experienced	This field is to identify students who are or have had an episode of care-experience in their life (FES 2 Code list Y).	1	537
77	In receipt of care-experienced bursary	This field is to identify students who have been assessed and are in receipt of the enhanced bursary for care-experienced. 0=No, 1=Yes.	1	538
78	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code – choose the most appropriate code from FES 2 Code list Z, that best represents the type of economic activity that the programme supports. Note: not required for any ESOL course and only required for courses over 40 hours and at SCQF (or equivalent) level 4 and above.	2	539-540

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
79	Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code	Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code – choose the most appropriate code from FES 2 Code list AA, that best represents the type of occupational classification for the programme that completing students may enter. Note: not required for any ESOL course and only required for courses over 40 hours and at SCQF (or equivalent) level 4 and above.	3	541-543
80	Approved accommodation or lodgings residence costs	Total amount awarded for approved accommodation or lodgings residence costs (in whole £s).	5	544-548
81	Personal allowance residence costs	Total amount awarded for personal allowance residence costs (in whole £s).	5	549-553
82	Service student	This field is to identify students ‘who has a parent or carer who served or is serving in the regular or reservist British Armed Forces (Royal Navy; Royal Marines; British Army; or Royal Air Force) at any point during the first 25 years of that person's life.’ (FES 2 Code list AB).	1	554
83	Types of care setting	This field is to identify for Care-experienced students the ‘type of care setting’ they have most recently lived in (FES 2 Code list AC)	1	555

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
84	Academic issues	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	556
85	Caring responsibilities	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	557
86	Deceased	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	558
87	Digital accessibility issues	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	559
88	Dissatisfied with blended learning / on-line learning experience	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	560
89	Dissatisfied with course / content	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	561
90	Disciplinary / Exclusion	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	562

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
91	Employer / Sponsor withdrew support	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	563
92	Estranged / homelessness	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	564
93	Financial issues	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	565
94	Health issues	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	566
95	Non-attendance / college withdrew	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	567
96	To take up employment	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	568
97	Travel issues	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	569

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
98	Unknown	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	570
99	Foundation Apprentice work placement employer	This text field is to record the employer's name for the Foundation Apprenticeship work placement	30	571-600
100	Foundation Apprentice work placement employer location post code	This field is to record the post code of a Foundation Apprentice's work placement employer location	8	601-608
101	Took up course offer at another institution (college or university)	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	609
102	Full or partial loss of voice or difficulty speaking (a condition that requires you to use equipment to speak)	Y=Yes, N=No	1	610
103	Foundation Apprentice email address	This field is to record the contact email address of the Foundation Apprentice	40	611-650

Ref:	Field Name	Description	Length	Position
104	Employer contact name	This field is to record the employer contact's name for the Foundation Apprentice work placement	30	651-680
105	Employer street name	This field is to record the employer's street name for the Foundation Apprenticeship work placement	40	681-720
106	Employer city	This field is to record the employer's city name for the Foundation Apprenticeship work placement	20	721-740
107	Dissatisfied with delivery/teaching	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	741
108	Dissatisfied with student environment/culture	Y=Yes, N=No Reason for withdrawal - see instruction at FES 2 Code list AD	1	742

Code list A

Country of nationality of student

Code list A	
XH	Scotland
XF	England
XG	Northern Ireland
XI	Wales / Cymru
AD	Andorra
AE	United Arab Emirates
AF	Afghanistan
AG	Antigua and Barbuda
AI	Anguilla
AL	Albania
AM	Armenia
AO	Angola
AR	Argentina
AS	American Samoa
AT	Austria
AU	Australia
AW	Aruba
AX	Åland Islands
AZ	Azerbaijan

Code list A

BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BB	Barbados
BD	Bangladesh
BE	Belgium
BF	Burkina Faso
BG	Bulgaria
BH	Bahrain
BI	Burundi
BJ	Benin
BL	Saint Barthélemy
BM	Bermuda
BN	Brunei Darussalam
BO	Bolivia
BQ	Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba
BR	Brazil
BS	Bahamas, The
BT	Bhutan
BW	Botswana
BY	Belarus
BZ	Belize
CA	Canada
CC	Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Code list A

CD Congo (Democratic Republic)

CF Central African Republic

CG Congo

CH Switzerland

CI Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

CK Cook Islands

CL Chile

CM Cameroon

CN China

CO Colombia

CR Costa Rica

CU Cuba

CV Cabo Verde (Cape Verde)

CW Curaçao

CX Christmas Island

CY Cyprus

CZ Czechia

DE Germany

DJ Djibouti

DK Denmark

DM Dominica

DO Dominican Republic

Code list A**DZ** Algeria**EC** Ecuador**EE** Estonia**EG** Egypt**EH** Western Sahara**ER** Eritrea**ES** Spain / Canarias**ET** Ethiopia**FI** Finland**FJ** Fiji**FK** Falkland Islands [Malvinas]**FM** Micronesia**FO** Faroe Islands**FR** France**GA** Gabon**GD** Grenada**GE** Georgia**GF** French Guiana**GG** Guernsey**GH** Ghana**GI** Gibraltar**GL** Greenland

Code list A

GM	Gambia, The
GN	Guinea
GP	Guadeloupe
GQ	Equatorial Guinea
GR	Greece
GS	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
GT	Guatemala
GU	Guam
GW	Guinea-Bissau
GY	Guyana
HK	Hong Kong
HN	Honduras
HR	Croatia
HT	Haiti
HU	Hungary
ID	Indonesia
IE	Ireland
IL	Israel
IM	Isle of Man
IN	India
IO	British Indian Ocean Territory
IQ	Iraq

Code list A

IR	Iran
IS	Iceland
IT	Italy
JE	Jersey
JM	Jamaica
JO	Jordan
JP	Japan
KE	Kenya
KG	Kyrgyzstan
KH	Cambodia
KI	Kiribati
KM	Comoros
KN	Saint Kitts and Nevis
KP	Korea (the Democratic People's Republic of) - North Korea
KR	Korea (the Republic of) - South Korea
KW	Kuwait
KY	Cayman Islands
KZ	Kazakhstan
LA	Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos)
LB	Lebanon
LC	Saint Lucia
LI	Liechtenstein

Code list A

LK	Sri Lanka
LR	Liberia
LS	Lesotho
LT	Lithuania
LU	Luxembourg
LV	Latvia
LY	Libya
MA	Morocco
MC	Monaco
MD	Moldova
ME	Montenegro
MF	Saint Martin (French part)
MG	Madagascar
MH	Marshall Islands
MK	Macedonia
ML	Mali
MM	Myanmar (Burma)
MN	Mongolia
MO	Macao
MP	Northern Mariana Islands
MQ	Martinique
MR	Mauritania

Code list A**MS** Montserrat**MT** Malta**MU** Mauritius**MV** Maldives**MW** Malawi**MX** Mexico**MY** Malaysia**MZ** Mozambique**NA** Namibia**NC** New Caledonia**NE** Niger**NF** Norfolk Island**NG** Nigeria**NI** Nicaragua**NL** Netherlands**NO** Norway**NP** Nepal**NR** Nauru**NU** Niue**NZ** New Zealand**OM** Oman**PA** Panama

Code list A

PE	Peru
PF	French Polynesia
PG	Papua New Guinea
PH	Philippines
PK	Pakistan
PL	Poland
PM	Saint Pierre and Miquelon
PN	Pitcairn
PR	Puerto Rico
PS	Palestine, State of
PT	Portugal
PW	Palau
PY	Paraguay
QA	Qatar
QO	Kosova
RE	Réunion
RO	Romania
RS	Serbia
RU	Russian Federation
RW	Rwanda
SA	Saudi Arabia
SB	Solomon Islands

Code list A

SC	Seychelles
SD	Sudan
SE	Sweden
SG	Singapore
SH	Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
SI	Slovenia
SJ	Svalbard and Jan Mayen
SK	Slovakia
SL	Sierra Leone
SM	San Marino
SN	Senegal
SO	Somalia
SR	Suriname
SS	South Sudan
ST	Sao Tome and Principe
SV	El Salvador
SX	Sint Maarten (Dutch part)
SY	Syrian Arab Republic
SZ	Swaziland
TC	Turks and Caicos Islands
TD	Chad
TG	Togo

Code list A

TH	Thailand
TJ	Tajikistan
TK	Tokelau
TL	Timor-Leste (East Timor)
TM	Turkmenistan
TN	Tunisia
TO	Tonga
TR	Turkey
TT	Trinidad and Tobago
TV	Tuvalu
TW	Taiwan (Province of China)
TZ	Tanzania
UA	Ukraine
UG	Uganda
US	United States of America
UY	Uruguay
UZ	Uzbekistan
VA	Holy See (Vatican City State)
VC	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
VE	Venezuela
VG	Virgin Islands (British)
VI	Virgin Islands (U.S.)

Code list A**VN** Vietnam**VU** Vanuatu**WF** Wallis and Futuna**WS** Samoa**XA** Cyprus (European Union)**XB** Cyprus (Non-European Union)**YE** Yemen**YT** Mayotte**ZA** South Africa**ZM** Zambia**ZW** Zimbabwe**ZZ** Stateless

Code list B

Permanent home location (domicile of student)

Scotland	
100	Aberdeen City
110	Aberdeenshire
120	Angus
130	Argyll & Bute
150	Clackmannanshire
170	Dumfries and Galloway
180	Dundee City
190	East Ayrshire
200	East Dunbartonshire
210	East Lothian
220	East Renfrewshire
230	Edinburgh, City of
240	Falkirk
250	Fife
260	Glasgow City
270	Highland
280	Inverclyde
290	Midlothian
300	Moray
310	North Ayrshire

320	North Lanarkshire
330	Orkney Islands
340	Perth and Kinross
350	Renfrewshire
355	Scottish Borders
360	Shetland Islands
370	South Ayrshire
380	South Lanarkshire
390	Stirling
395	West Dunbartonshire
400	West Lothian
235	Na h-Eileanan Siar (Western Isles or Outer Hebrides)
530	Wales
550	Northern Ireland

England		
Standard statistical region	Government office region	County
South East	501 South East	Isle of Wight
		Kent
		Oxfordshire
		Surrey
		West Sussex
	502 London	Greater London
		Berkshire
		Buckinghamshire
		East Sussex
		Hampshire
	503 Eastern	Bedfordshire
		Essex
Hertfordshire		
South West	504 South West	Avon
		Cornwall
		Devon
		Dorset
		Gloucestershire
		Somerset
	Wiltshire	

England			
Standard statistical region		Government office region	County
West Midlands	505	West Midlands	Herefordshire
			Worcestershire
			Shropshire
			Staffordshire
			Warwickshire
		West Midlands	
East Midlands	506	East Midlands	Derbyshire
			Leicestershire
			Lincolnshire
			Northamptonshire
		Nottinghamshire	
Yorkshire and Humberside	507	Yorkshire and the Humber	Humberside
			North Yorkshire
			South Yorkshire
		West Yorkshire	
North West	508	Merseyside	Merseyside
	509	North West	Cheshire
			Greater Manchester
		Lancashire	

England		
Standard statistical region	Government office region	County
North	510	North East
		Cleveland
		Durham
		Northumberland
		Tyne and Wear
		Cumbria
	511	Isle of Man
	512	Channel Islands

European Union (EU) member countries	
610	Austria
614	Belgium
621	Bulgaria
834	Croatia
638	Cyprus
849	Czech Republic
641	Denmark
831	Estonia
651	Finland
653	France
656	Germany

European Union (EU) member countries

661	Greece
670	Hungary
676	Ireland, Republic of
678	Italy
832	Latvia
833	Lithuania
693	Luxembourg
700	Malta
710	Netherlands
727	Poland
728	Portugal
733	Romania
850	Slovakia
835	Slovenia
751	Spain
755	Sweden

Overseas countries

Name of country	Code	Name of country	Code
Afghanistan	602	Belize	668
Africa, not otherwise specified	627	Benin	640
Åland Islands {Ahvenamaa}	651	Bermuda	615
Albania	603	Bhutan	616
Algeria	604	Bolivia	617
American Samoa	855	Bosnia and Herzegovina	848
Andorra	605	Botswana	618
Angola	606	Brazil	619
Anguilla	824	British Virgin Islands [Virgin Islands, British]	776
Antarctica and Oceania, not otherwise specified	801	Brunei [Brunei Darussalam]	620
Antigua and Barbuda	607	Bulgaria	621
Argentina	608	Burkina [Burkina Faso]	769
Armenia	836	Burma [Myanmar]	622
Aruba	637	Burundi	623
Asia (Except Middle East), not otherwise specified		Cambodia	624
Australia	609	Cameroon	625
Austria	610	Canada	626
Azerbaijan	837	Canary Islands	751
Bahamas, The	611	Cape Verde	788

Name of country	Code	Name of country	Code
Bahrain	612	Caribbean, not otherwise specified	
Bangladesh	787	Cayman Islands	789
Barbados	613	Central African Republic	627
Belarus	838	Central America, not otherwise specified	
Belgium	614	Chad	629
Channel Islands, not otherwise specified	826	El Salvador	646
China		Equatorial Guinea	790
Chile	631	Egypt	768
China (Taiwan) [Taiwan, Province Of China]	630	England	
Christmas Island	652	Eritrea	851
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	609	Estonia	831
Colombia	609	Ethiopia	648
Comoros	632	Europe, not otherwise specified	
Congo	804	European Union, not otherwise specified	
Congo (Democratic Republic) [Congo (The Democratic Republic of the)] {Formerly Zaire}	634	Falkland Islands [Falkland Islands (Malvinas)]	649
Cook Islands	633	Faroe Islands	865
Costa Rica	714	Fiji	650
Croatia	635	Finland	651

Name of country	Code	Name of country	Code
Cuba	834	France {includes Corsica}	653
Cyprus (European Union)	636	French Guiana	791
Cyprus (Non-European Union)	638	French Polynesia	822
Cyprus, not otherwise specified	638	Gabon	654
Czech Republic	638	Gambia, The	655
Czechoslovakia not otherwise specified	849	Georgia	847
Denmark	641	Germany	656
Djibouti	749	Ghana	658
Dominica	642	Gibraltar	659
Dominican Republic	643	Greece	661
East Timor [Timor Leste]	786	Greenland	828
Ecuador	645	Grenada	662
Guadeloupe {includes St Martin (North)}	653	Kazakhstan	839
Guam	796	Kenya	683
Guatemala	663	Kiribati	660
Guernsey	593	Korea (North) [Korea, Democratic People's Republic of]	685
Guinea	664	Korea (South) [Korea, Republic of]	684
Guinea-Bissau	802	Kosovo	
Guyana	665	Kuwait	686
Haiti	666	Kyrgyzstan	840

Name of country	Code	Name of country	Code
Honduras	667	Laos [Lao People's Democratic Republic]	687
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China) [Hong Kong]	669	Lebanon	688
Hungary	670	Lesotho	690
Iceland	671	Liberia	691
India	672	Libya [Libyan Arab Jamahiriya]	692
Indonesia	673	Liechtenstein	827
Iran [Iran, Islamic Republic of]	674	Lithuania	833
Iraq	675	Luxembourg	693
Ireland	676	Macao (Special Administrative Region of China) [Macao]	852
Isle of Man	595	Macedonia [Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of]	
Israel	677	Madagascar	695
Italy {Includes Sardinia, Sicily}	678	Malawi	696
Jamaica	680	Malaysia	698
Japan	681	Maldives	793
Jersey	594	Mali	699
Jordan	682	Malta	700
Marshall Islands	861	Netherlands	710
Martinique	653	Netherlands Antilles {Comprises Curacao, Bonaire, Saba, St Eustatius, St Martin (South)}	637

Name of country	Code	Name of country	Code
Mauritania	701	North America, not otherwise specified	
Mauritius	702	Northern Ireland	550
Mayotte	821	Northern Mariana Islands	771
Mexico	703	Norway	718
Micronesia [Micronesia, Federated States of]	862	Not Known	782
Middle East, not otherwise specified		Oman	708
Moldova [Moldova, Republic of]	841	Pakistan	721
Monaco	825	Palau	796
Mongolia	704	Panama	722
Montserrat	705	Papua New Guinea	712/723
Montenegro		Paraguay	724
Morocco	706	Peru	725
Mozambique	707	Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie And Oeno Islands [Pitcairn]	823
Namibia	798	Poland	727
Nauru	805	Portugal {Includes Madeira, Azores}	728
Nepal	709	Puerto Rico	730
New Caledonia	711	Qatar	731
New Zealand	714	Réunion	653
Nicaragua	715	Romania	733
Niger	716	Russia [Russian Federation]	842

Name of country	Code	Name of country	Code
Nigeria	717	Rwanda	734
Niue	714	San Marino	826
Norfolk Island	609	Samoa	741
Sao Tome And Principe	803	Switzerland	756
Saudi Arabia	743	Syria [Syrian Arab Republic]	757
Scotland		St Pierre And Miquelon	653
Senegal	785	St Vincent And The Grenadines	738
Serbia and Montenegro	780	Stateless	783
Seychelles	744	Sudan	752
Sierra Leone	745	Tajikistan	843
Singapore	746	Tanzania [Tanzania, United Republic of]	759
Slovakia	850	Thailand	760
Slovenia	835	The Republic of Côte d'Ivoire [Côte D'ivoire]	679
Solomon Islands	747	Togo	762
Somalia	748	Tokelau	714
South Africa	750	Tonga	784
South America, not otherwise specified		Trinidad and Tobago	763
South Georgia And The South Sandwich Islands	830	Tunisia	765
Spain {includes CEUTA, MELILLA}	751	Turkey	766
Spain (Except Canary Islands)	751	Turkmenistan	844

Name of country	Code	Name of country	Code
Spain, not otherwise specified	751	Turks and Caicos Islands	799
Sri Lanka	628	Tuvalu	647
St Helena	735	Uganda	767
St Kitts And Nevis	736	Ukraine	845
Surinam [Suriname]	753	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics not otherwise specified	772
Svalbard And Jan Mayen	718	United Arab Emirates	764
Swaziland	754	United Kingdom	000
Sweden	755	United Kingdom, not otherwise specified	000
United States	771	Wallis and Futuna	822
United States Virgin Islands [Virgin Islands, U. S.]	800	West Bank (including East Jerusalem) and Gaza Strip [Palestinian Territory, Occupied]	
Uruguay	770	Western Sahara	706
Uzbekistan	846	Yemen	601
Vanuatu	713	Former Yugoslavia not otherwise specified	780
Vatican City [Holy See (Vatican City State)]	678	Zambia	781
Venezuela	773	Zimbabwe	732
Vietnam [Viet Nam]	774	Not Known	999
Wales	530	Stateless	888

Code list C

Source of finance of fee for student

24. Where the student has more than one source of finance the main one should be coded.
25. Where a student assessed by a college or external agency as requiring additional support is enrolled on a programme designed to meet their educational needs and credits are claimed against SFC Price Group 5 – as per the SFC Credits Guidance – code 33 (Fee waiver – student on a DPG 18 / PG 5 programme) should always be used as the source of finance for fee for the student.

Code	Description
01	Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS)
03	Local Education Authority (LEA) in England or Wales, Welsh Office or Department of Education Northern Ireland (DENI)
04	Research Councils or Department for Education and Employment (DfEE)
05	Government Training Credit, e.g. Skillseeker, Modern Apprenticeship
06	Local Enterprise Company (LEC)
07	Public bodies (not specified elsewhere e.g. other HM Government Departments, Department for International Development (DfID), Armed Forces, Health Boards and British Council)
08	European Union Funding
09	Other overseas funding (including overseas Governments, industry, commerce, universities etc.)
10	UK industry and commerce
14	Self-financing student (home rate, includes (EU)
15	Scottish Local Authority bursary
16	Skills Development Scotland (SDS)
17	Individual Training Account
22	Fee waiver – full-time non-advanced
24	Fee waiver – low income
25	Fee waiver – Islands Authority fee waiver (excludes Orkney and Shetland)
26	Fee waiver – cost borne by college
28	Fee waiver – incapacity benefit
29	Fee waiver – severe disablement allowance
33	Fee waiver – student on a DPG 18 / PG 5 programme

- 35 Orkney or Shetland Islands Authority
- 36 Self-financing (full-rate)
- 37 Fee waiver – carers allowance
- 38 Fee waiver – disability living allowance
- 39 Fee waiver – pension credit
- 41 Fee waiver – old full-time criteria
- 42 Fee waiver – school pupil
- 43 Fee waiver – attendance allowance
- 46 Veterans*
- 48 Fee waiver – student in care
- 49 Fee waiver – asylum seeker or spouse or child of an asylum seeker
- 50 Fee waiver – contribution-based employment and support allowance
- 51 Work programme
- 52 Fee waiver – Personal Independence Payment (PIP). This benefit will eventually replace:-
Code 38 - Disability Living Allowance
- 53 Fee waiver – Universal credit (UC). This benefit will eventually replace:-
Code 23 - Income support
Code 30 - Housing benefit (HB)
Code 40 - { Child tax credit
Working tax credit
Code 44 - Income-based job-seekers allowance (JSA)
Code 47 - Income-related employment and support allowances (ESA)
- 54 Students from the rest of the United Kingdom (RUK)

-
- | | |
|----|---|
| 56 | Fee waiver – Short full-time (SFT) course |
| 57 | Fee waiver – Ukrainian refugee / Homes for Ukraine scheme |
| 58 | Fee waiver – Adult Disability Payment |
-

* see definition of ‘Veterans’ at Code list N – groups of specific interest

26. For Foundation Apprentice (FA) students use source of finance of fee code 42, ‘Fee waiver – school pupil’ **and** FA students should always also be flagged under Code list T - Target group as Code 2.

Code list D

Ethnic group

Code	Description	
10	Scottish	
11	English	
12	Welsh	
13	Irish	
30	Northern Irish	
31	British	White
32	Gypsy / Traveller	
33	Polish	
37	Roma	
38	Showman / Showwoman	
14	Any other white background	
15	Any mixed background	Mixed
16	Indian, Scottish Indian, or British Indian	
17	Pakistani, Scottish Pakistani, or British Pakistani	
18	Bangladeshi, Scottish Bangladeshi, or British Bangladeshi	Asian, Scottish Asian, or British Asian
19	Chinese, Scottish Chinese, or British Chinese	
20	Any other Asian background	
21	Caribbean, Scottish Caribbean, or British Caribbean	Caribbean
36	Other Caribbean or Black background	

Code	Description	
35	Black, Scottish Black or British Black	
22	African, Scottish African, or British African	African Black, Black Scottish or Black British
23	Other African background	
34	Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab	
24	Any other background	Other ethnic background
98	Prefer not to say	
99	Information not known (Note: not for respondents to complete but for college staff to assign in the event of a blank field)	

27. It is compulsory for colleges to complete code list D (ethnic group) for all students enrolled on fundable (and non-fundable Skills Development Scotland) programmes.
28. We are encouraging all colleges that have submitted any students as 'Prefer not to say' in terms of **Ethnicity** to take effective steps to improve the proportion of students with meaningful codes.

Code list E

Mode of attendance of student

Code	Description	Definition
05	Short full-time	Self-contained full-time programme, i.e. one not supplemented by other periods of study of 18 weeks duration or less.
06	Block release	<p>Programme for which students are released by their employer for periods of full-time attendance.</p> <p>Please note that any additional periods of part-time study associated with a block release programme are regarded as being part of the programme.</p>
07	Part-time (day release)	Programme for which employer sponsored students are released by their employer for part of the week.
08	Other part-time day programme	Also includes day programmes in which periods of evening or twilight study form an integral part of the programme.
09	Evenings only and weekends	Programme held only in evening or twilight sessions or at weekends.
11	Assessment of work-based learning	<p>Provision for Assessment of Work Based Learning (AWBL) where college staff are only responsible for assessment in the student's workplace.</p> <p>(Note: Assessment combined with other education should be coded under the dominant mode of attendance of education given)</p>
12	Distance learning	Programme designed for study by correspondence, although they may involve study weekends / summer schools etc.

Code	Description	Definition
16	Flexible learning	Programme designed to be studied flexibly with varying patterns of attendance which could include day, evening and/or home / distance learning.
17	Full-time	Programme that meets the new full-time criteria of at least 600 hours for FE (15 Credits) or for a 1-year HNC 480 hours (12 Credits) of planned notional hours.
18	Part-time, but previously met old full-time criteria	Programme that does not meet the new full-time criteria (code 17) but meets the old full-time / sandwich programme criteria (AY 2004-05). Must be greater than 18 weeks in length, consisting of at least six half days per week.

Code list F

Other qualifications (qualifications held on entry)

Please enter, from the list below, code for highest qualification other than SCE/GCE/GCSW (if any) held on entry to present course. If none, leave blank. Include specific qualifications obtained from combinations of National Units (formerly National Certificate Modules) even though the total number of National Units obtained is also entered separately at Section 3 Ref: 25.

Advanced qualification

Code	Description
27	Doctorate
28	Masters Degree
01	Degree
02	Membership etc. of professional institution
03	Higher National Diploma, HE Diploma, Teaching Diploma, or equivalent
04	SVQ: Level 4 and above
06	Higher National Certificate or equivalent
07	Other advanced qualifications
26	Advanced Higher / Scottish Baccalaureates

Non-advanced qualification

Code	Description
08	Certificate of Sixth Year Studies (CSYS) / Advanced Higher
09	SVQ: Level 3
10	Access 3 / Foundation Standard Grade
11	Access to University course

Code	Description
12	SVQ: Level 2 / Intermediate 2 / Credit Standard Grade
13	Access 2
14	SVQ: Level 1 / Intermediate 1 / General Standard Grade
15	Access 1
16	Ordinary / Scottish National Diploma
17	Ordinary / Scottish National Certificate
20	National 1
21	National 2
22	National 3 / Skills for work National 3
23	National 4 / Skills for work National 4
24	National 5 / Skills for work National 5
25	Higher / Skills for work Higher
99	Standard / Higher Grade
00	Student holds no qualification

Code list G

Category of student

Code	Description
17	Primary school pupil
15	School based S1
16	School based S2
01	School based S3
02	School based S4
03	School based S5
04	School based S6
05	Student on Scottish wider access programme (SWAP)
06	Student on other access course for Higher Education (all modes) – other than conventional SCE/GCE/GCSE studies
07	Student on European exchange (e.g. ERASMUS, COMETT)
08	Student on Youth Training / Employability Fund / Modern Apprenticeship
09	Student on other government training scheme
10	Full-time college based not included above
11	Permanent or temporary employment
12	Registered unemployed – receiving jobseekers allowance
13	Registered unemployed - not receiving jobseekers allowance
14	Not registered unemployed but not working
18	Retired
19	P1-P7, S1-S6, but not on a school link programme

Code	Description
20	Migrant worker
21	Winter leaver

29. If course type is school link, then the student category should be coded 1-4, 15, 16, 17.
30. A school 'Winter leaver' for academic year 2026-27 is any student whose 16th birthday falls on or after 1 October 2026 but before 1 March 2027, and who is on a full-time course with a start date before 21 December 2026. The student will have 'Source of finance of fee for student' Code 22 – 'Fee waiver – full-time non-advanced', or Code 33 – 'Fee waiver – student on a DPG 18 / PG5 programme' and is not in school.
31. The amount of allowable School activity per region out with Senior Phase (category of student 01, 15, 16, 17 and 19), will be a maximum of 1.5% of core credits.
32. For all students undertaking Scottish Wider Access programmes (SWAP) they **must** be reported under category of student code '05' and this code **must not** be used for any other students.
33. Category of student code 10 should not be used if another category of student code applies.

Code list H

Disability allowance

Code	Description
1	The student has no disability
2	The student has a disability and is in receipt of disabled students allowance
3	The student has a disability but is not in receipt of disabled students allowance
4	The student has a disability but information about disabled students allowance is not known / not sought
7	Prefer not to say
8	Information unknown

34. The disability allowance field identifies whether the student is known to be disabled and whether they are in receipt of the disabled students allowance or not. This field is only to be completed for students on HE courses. For students on FE courses the field should be left blank.

Code list J

Student record outcome

35. This field identifies the student's outcome from the programme on which they have enrolled, and as entered on their corresponding FES 1 record, i.e. the student's FES 2 record outcome should correspond to the FES 1 programme / course entry for that student.
36. Outcome should match with the FES 1 qualification aim of study field and be evaluated / determined on this basis.
37. Note: There may be infrequent circumstances where students may decide not to undertake any of the assessments, e.g. in mixed ability courses for ESOL students or for those with supported learning requirements. In these circumstances it is permissible to change the qualification aim code in a student's FES 2 record to PB to accurately reflect the students actual level of study and report the student outcome record as Code 21.

Code	Description
01	Enrolled on programme / course but never attended ²
02	Withdrawn from programme / course and commenced employment
03	Withdrawn from programme / course and now studying in an HEI
04	Withdrawn from programme / course and destination unknown
05	Transferred to another programme / course within the college
07	Completed programme / course, student assessed but not successful
08	Completed programme / course, student assessed and successful
10	Withdrawn from programme / course and now studying elsewhere (not HEI)
14	Completed programme / course, student not assessed as programme / course not designed to be assessed² Use for code PB qualification aim courses only
16	Deceased ²
17	Student has progressed to next year but did not gain 70% of the assessed credits undertaken
18	Student has progressed to next year and has achieved 70% of the assessed credits undertaken
20	Student has achieved 70% of the assessed credits undertaken but has chosen not to progress onto the next year
21	Completed programme / course, student not assessed although programme / course designed to be assessed ²
22	Student completed first year of an HND but has chosen to leave with an HNC
23	Spanning programme where outcome is not yet known ²
24	Studying on a flexible learning programme where outcome is not yet known ²
25	Student is on an interim year of a multi-year VQ programme and is on-track and is still participating in the college programme

Codes in **purple** are positive outcomes.

38. The code 01 outcome 'Enrolled on programme / course but never attended' should only ever be used when a student has enrolled but never attends a timetabled teaching event. If a student attends **at least one** timetabled teaching event and then leaves the college, the most appropriate withdrawn code of 02, 03, 04 or 10 **must** be used and the applicable 'Reason for withdrawal' field(s) should be completed.
39. It is highly advisable that the success criteria for all programmes of study be defined and made known to staff and students at the outset of the programme. The predetermined success criteria should then be used consistently to determine the final student outcomes at programme completion.
40. Success rates for college devised programmes consisting of stand-alone units and college subject should be based **only** on the proportion of externally assessed units achieved i.e. they must gain 70% of the assessed unit credits.
41. It is recognised that some units will span two or more academic years on non-spanning programmes. In these cases, the 70% rule should be applied to the non-spanning units.

² To be excluded from PIs

Code list K

School code number

42. School code number is required for all students under 20 years of age at the point of enrolment.
43. This field must be completed for all school link programmes or student category – school-based pupils (code list G – 1-4, 15, 16 and 17).
44. This is to allow for the monitoring and tracking of school / college partnerships, the Schools for Higher Education Programme (SHEP) and Youth participation.
45. Scottish Office Education and Industry Department (SOEID) codes for schools open up until September 2018 can be found at the link below. For information on schools that have opened since January 2018 please email school.stats@gov.scot or alternatively contact SFC.
46. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/school-contact-details/>
47. If the student was not attending a Scottish local authority, independent or grant-aided school then for the following schooling situations enter the appropriate code below:
 - Home-schooled – 1111111
 - Non-Scottish UK school – 2222222
 - Non-UK EU school – 3333333
 - Overseas school – 4444444

Code list M

Award Assessment category

48. Students is in receipt of support funding other than solely childcare **must** be recorded under one of the following Award Assessment Categories (AAC):

Award Assessment Category Codes

- 1 – Student is receiving the under 18 years of age award rate.
- 2 – Student is receiving the parentally supported (at parental home) award rate.
- 3 – Student is receiving the parentally supported (away from parental home) award rate.
- 4 – Student is receiving the self-supporting award rate.
- 5 – Student is receiving the care-experienced award rate.
- 6 – Student is receiving the Universal Credit (UC) award rate.
- 7 – Non-maintenance award.

Code list N

Groups of specific interest

Code	Description
AC	Bereaved Children Scheme
AD*	Iraqi Direct Entry Assistance Scheme
AE*	Profound and Complex Needs
AF	Asylum Seekers
AG	Refugees
AH	Person Granted Humanitarian Protection
AJ	Person Granted Discretionary Leave to Remain
AK*	Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme (VPRS)
AL*	Veterans
AM*	Afghan Locally Employed Staff
AN*	Estranged person
AO*	Stateless person
AP*	Pre-settled status (EU Settlement scheme)
AQ*	Settled status (EU Settlement scheme)
AR*	Ukrainian refugee / Homes for Ukraine scheme

49. This field is to identify students who are from a special interest group and are being supported into education. **Note:** Identification of individuals from special interest groups will most likely be through the student funding and support process therefore, this may require a co-ordinated approach to reporting between MIS and Student Funding and Support teams in colleges.

- **AD** – Identify Iraqi nationals who to date, have had direct access to further or higher education under the above Home Office resettlement programme.
- **AE** – A learner with “Profound and Complex Needs” is defined as Level of learning at:
 - SCQF level 1 (National 1 Independent level).
 - SCQF level 1 (National 1 Supported level).

In combination with a significant additional impairment such as:

- Profound sensory loss, physical disability and/or disruptive behaviour.
 - Significant health care needs.
 - Use of alternative or augmentative communication.
 - A need to use adaptive technology / specialised software.
 - A need for a high level of specialised multi-agency support.
 - A need for significant adaptation to the curriculum, requiring regular contact with outside agencies.
 - A need for modification to the physical environment.
 - A need for a high level of specialised resources.
- **AK** – Identify Syrian nationals who have been granted humanitarian protection to enter the UK under the ‘Syrian VPRS’; and
 - Has been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Islands at all times since they were granted Humanitarian Protection.
 - Are ordinarily resident in Scotland on the relevant day.

Or

- Is the spouse, civil partner or a child of a person above.
 - Is ordinarily resident in Scotland on the relevant day.
- **AL** – Identify ‘Veterans’ who are undertaking college learning and to allow mapping of outcomes and progress for veteran learners following a recommendation by the Scottish Veterans Commissioner.

Definition: ‘A veteran is anyone who has served for at least one day in Her Majesty’s Armed Forces (regular or reserve) or Merchant Mariners who have seen duty on military operations’.

- **AM** – Identify persons who have been granted leave to remain in the UK under the ‘Afghan Locally Employed Staff’ scheme are eligible providing they meet the following conditions:
 - Is an Afghan national.
 - Has been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Islands at all times since they were granted that leave.
 - Are ordinarily resident in Scotland on the relevant day.

Or

- Is the spouse, civil partner or child of a person above.
 - Is ordinarily resident in Scotland on the relevant day.
- **AN** – Identify ‘Estranged’ persons who are undertaking college learning and to monitor the intake, progress and outcomes of this group to help evidence and inform the need for future interventions.

Definition: ‘Estranged means that you no longer have contact with your parents or legal guardians due to a permanent breakdown in your relationship.

If you are under 25 and estranged from your parents or legal guardians, we will not ask about their income when we work out the funding, we give you.

If you have had any one-off contact with your parents or legal guardians while you have been estranged, we will look at this on a case-by-case basis.’

- **AO** – Identify persons who have been granted leave to remain in the UK as a ‘Stateless’ Person are eligible providing they meet the following conditions:
 - Has been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Islands at all times since they were granted that leave.
 - Are ordinarily resident in Scotland on the relevant day.
- Or
- Is the spouse, civil partner or child of a person above.
 - Is ordinarily resident in Scotland on the relevant day.
- **AP** – Identify EU nationals who have been granted ‘Pre-settled status’ as part of the UK’s ‘EU Settlement scheme’ and have the right to remain, work and access education.

- **AQ** – Identify EU nationals who have been granted ‘Settled status’ as part of the UK’s ‘EU Settlement scheme’ and have the right to remain, work and access education.
- **AR** – Identify Ukrainian nationals who are in Scotland either as a Ukrainian refugee/displaced people or under the UK’s ‘Homes for Ukraine scheme’.

Code list O

Qualification aim of student

Advanced qualifications (SCQF Level 7 and above)

Code	Description
26	Scottish Baccalaureate
27	Professional Body Qualification
28	Scottish Vocational Qualification or National Vocational Qualification
29	Advanced accredited qualification not specified elsewhere
30	SQA Professional Development Award
41	Graduate Level Apprenticeship
KA	SQA Advanced Higher Award
BA	First Degree (honours)
BB	First Degree (ordinary)
DC	Higher National Diploma or equivalent
DD	Higher National Certificate or equivalent
DE	Next Generation Higher National Certificate or equivalent
DF	Next Generation Higher National Diploma or equivalent
EE	HN units only but not leading to an award certificate (including infill)

Non-advanced qualifications (SCQF Level 6 and below)

31	Scottish Vocational Qualification or National Vocational Qualification
32	SQA Professional Development Award
33	National Certificate Award (accredited group award)

Code	Description
34	National Qualification Award (college devised programme that will contain accredited units and may also contain small group award(s) but will not lead to a substantive accredited Group Award)
35	SQA National Progression Award
36	SQA Skills for Work Award
37	Non-advanced accredited qualification not specified elsewhere
38	SQA National Award
39	Non-advanced units only but not leading to an award certificate (including infill)
40	Foundation Level Apprenticeship
KB	SQA Higher Award
PB	Programme not leading to recognised qualification (fully non-assessed courses including most non-vocational programmes)

50. Code PB 'Programme not leading to a recognised qualification (fully non-assessed courses including most non-vocational programmes)', should only be used when a programme contains no formal accredited units.

51. Every course should have a SCQF **or** 'broadly comparable' level code.

Code list P

Sex of student

Code	Description
10	Male
11	Female
13	Prefer not to say
09	Not known (do not include in question but do code as Not known in FES)

52. We are following the latest recommended guidance for public bodies from the Chief Statistician on the collection and publication of equalities data on [Sex, gender identity, trans status](#).
53. Question – What is your sex?
54. All 'blank' fields should be reported as Code 09 'Not known' in FES.
55. Note: the collection of this protective characteristic field is compulsory.

Code list Q

Sexual orientation of student

Code	Description
1	Heterosexual/straight
2	Gay man
3	Gay woman/lesbian
4	Bi/bisexual
5	Other
6	Prefer not to say

56. This one-digit field identifies the sexual orientation of the student.
57. We are encouraging all colleges that have submitted any students as 'Prefer not to say' in terms of Sexual orientation to take effective steps to improve the proportion of students with meaningful codes.
58. Note: the collection of this protective characteristic field is compulsory.

Code list R

Religion, religious denomination or body

Code	Description
01	None
02	Christian: Protestant
03	Christian: Roman Catholic
04	Christian: Other
05	Muslim
06	Buddhist
07	Sikh
08	Jewish
09	Hindu
10	Another religion or body
11	Prefer not to say
12	Pagan

59. We are encouraging all colleges that have submitted any students as 'Prefer not to say' in terms of Religion, religious denomination or body to take effective steps to improve the proportion of students with meaningful codes.

60. Note: the collection of this protective characteristic field is compulsory.

Code list T

Target group

Code	Description
2	Foundation Apprenticeship (FA)
7	Modern Apprenticeship (MA)

61. Use target group '7' code for all students undertaking a modern apprenticeship (MA) irrespective of who is funding the training programme.
62. SFC currently identify MAs using a range of FES codes, but we are aware that is an estimate, and colleges will be better able to identify MA students from their side. The MA flag will be used to validate our work and help split MA and other cohorts for data analysis and funding work.

Code list U

Gender Identity and Trans Status of student

(Use the same code options for both questions.)

Code	Description
1	Yes
2	No
3	Prefer not to say
9	Not known (do not to include in question but do code as Not known in FES)

63. These questions should only be asked to those aged 16 and over.
64. Gender identity is recorded on the basis of the student's own self-assessment and should be asked separately from questions about sexual orientation, sex or gender.
65. Question – Is your gender identity the same as you were registered at birth?
66. We are implementing the latest recommended [guidance](#) for public bodies from the Chief Statistician on the collection and publication of Trans status data.
67. Question - Do you consider yourself to be trans, or have a trans history? [tick one box only]
68. All 'blank' fields for any student aged 16 and over at course start date should be reported as Code 9 'Not known' in FES.
69. Note: the collection of these protective characteristic fields is compulsory.
70. The Chief Statistician also recommends that a follow-on question is also asked on Trans status for those who responded to the trans status question "Yes":
71. Question – If you would like to, please describe your trans status (for example non-binary, trans man, trans woman)?
72. This would be an open text response and at this time we will not be collecting this information in FES, however colleges may decide to collect this additional information on trans status for their own equalities monitoring.

Code list W

Pregnancy and maternity

Code	Description
1	Yes
2	No
3	Prefer not to say

73. The collection of this field is to monitor equal opportunities issues in the further education sector and to support further education institutions in meeting their obligations under the Equality Act 2010.
74. Note: the collection of this protective characteristic field is compulsory.
75. This one-digit field identifies students currently pregnant or have been pregnant in the past year.
76. Question – Are you currently pregnant or have you been pregnant in the past year?

Code list X

First or preferred language

Code	Description
1	English
2	Gaelic
3	British Sign Language (BSL)
4	Any other national language
5	Prefer not to say
6	Scots
7	Shaetlan

77. The collection of this field is to monitor the first or preferred language of students. This information is required for monitoring and evaluation purposes of Scottish Government national policies / plans.

78. Note: the collection of this field is compulsory.

79. Colleges have a responsibility under the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015 to improve services for BSL users. Definition from BSL National Plan: 'Wherever we refer to 'BSL users' we mean D/deaf and/or Deafblind people (those who receive the language in a tactile form due to sight loss) whose first or preferred language is British Sign Language'.

80. This one-digit field identifies a student's first or preferred language.

81. Question – Which best describes your first or preferred language?

Code list Y

Care-experienced student

Code	Description
1	Yes – experience of care within the UK
2	No
3	Prefer not to say
4	Yes – experience of care out with the UK

82. A key priority is a more representative proportion of enrolments from care-experienced background (previously categorised as care leavers and looked after children).

83. Care-experienced definition: ‘anyone who has been or is currently in care or from a looked-after background at any stage of their life, no matter how short, including adopted children who were previously looked-after. This care may have been provided in one of many different settings such as in residential care, foster care, kinship care or looked after at home with a supervision requirement.’

Note: Kinship care is when a child is looked-after by their extended family or close friends if they cannot remain with their birth parents. This would involve some sort of involvement by the local authority (as opposed to private family arrangements).

84. Colleges are asked to ensure that care-experienced students self-disclose and improve on recording the number of care-experienced currently at college, to identify and support them through the full student cycle to successful outcome.

85. As per the SFC FE Student Support bursary policy, students with experience of care out with the UK are now eligible to claim Care-Experienced Bursary if they meet eligibility criteria. The code list in this field has been amended to request that Colleges distinguish between students with experience of care in the UK, and out with the UK.

Code list Z

Standard Industrial Classification codes

Code	Description
01	Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities
02	Forestry and logging
03	Fishing and aquaculture
05	Mining of coal and lignite
06	Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas
07	Mining of metal ores
08	Other mining and quarrying
09	Mining support service activities
10	Manufacture of food products
11	Manufacture of beverages
12	Manufacture of tobacco products
13	Manufacture of textiles
14	Manufacture of wearing apparel
15	Manufacture of leather and related products
16	Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials
17	Manufacture of paper and paper products
18	Printing and reproduction of recorded media
19	Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products
20	Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products

Code	Description
21	Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations
22	Manufacture of rubber and plastic products
23	Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products
24	Manufacture of basic metals
25	Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment
26	Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products
27	Manufacture of electrical equipment
28	Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.
29	Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers
30	Manufacture of other transport equipment
31	Manufacture of furniture
32	Other manufacturing
33	Repair and installation of machinery and equipment
35	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
36	Water collection, treatment and supply
37	Sewerage
38	Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities; materials recovery
39	Remediation activities and other waste management services.
41	Construction of buildings
42	Civil engineering
43	Specialised construction activities
45	Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles

Code	Description
46	Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles
47	Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles
49	Land transport and transport via pipelines
50	Water transport
51	Air transport
52	Warehousing and support activities for transportation
53	Postal and courier activities
55	Accommodation
56	Food and beverage service activities
58	Publishing activities
59	Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities
60	Programming and broadcasting activities
61	Telecommunications
62	Computer programming, consultancy and related activities
63	Information service activities
64	Financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding
65	Insurance, reinsurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security
66	Activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities
68	Real estate activities
69	Legal and accounting activities
70	Activities of head offices; management consultancy activities

Code	Description
71	Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis
72	Scientific research and development
73	Advertising and market research
74	Other professional, scientific and technical activities
75	Veterinary activities
77	Rental and leasing activities
78	Employment activities
79	Travel agency, tour operator and other reservation service and related activities
80	Security and investigation activities
81	Services to buildings and landscape activities
82	Office administrative, office support and other business support activities
84	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
85	Education
86	Human health activities
87	Residential care activities
88	Social work activities without accommodation
90	Creative, arts and entertainment activities
91	Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities
92	Gambling and betting activities
93	Sports activities and amusement and recreation activities
94	Activities of membership organisations
95	Repair of computers and personal and household goods

Code	Description
96	Other personal service activities
97	Activities of households as employers of domestic personnel
98	Undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of private households for own use
99	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies
00	Not Applicable

Code list AA

Standard Occupational Classification codes

Code	Description
111	Chief Executives and Senior Officials
112	Production Managers and Directors
113	Functional Managers and Directors
114	Directors in Logistics, Warehousing and Transport
115	Managers and Directors in Retail and Wholesale
116	Senior Officers in Protective Services
117	Health and Social Services Managers and Directors
121	Managers and Proprietors in Agriculture Related Services
122	Managers and Proprietors in Hospitality and Leisure Services
123	Managers and Proprietors in Health and Care Services
124	Managers in Logistics, Warehousing and Transport
125	Managers and Proprietors in Other Services
211	Natural and Social Science Professionals
212	Engineering Professionals
213	Information Technology Professionals
214	Web and Multimedia Design Professionals
215	Conservation and Environment Professionals
216	Research and Development (R&D) and Other Research Professionals
221	Medical Practitioners
222	Therapy Professionals

Code	Description
223	Nursing Professionals
224	Veterinarians
225	Other Health Professionals
231	Teaching Professionals
232	Other Educational Professionals
241	Legal Professionals
242	Finance Professionals
243	Business, Research and Administrative Professionals
244	Business and Financial Project Management Professionals
245	Architects, Chartered Architectural Technologists, Planning Officers, Surveyors and Construction Professionals
246	Welfare Professionals
247	Librarians and Related Professionals
248	Quality and Regulatory Professionals
249	Media Professionals
311	Science, Engineering and Production Technicians
312	CAD, Drawing and Architectural Technicians
313	Information Technology Technicians
321	Health Associate Professionals
322	Welfare and Housing Associate Professionals
323	Teaching and Childcare Associate Professionals
324	Veterinary nurses

Code	Description
331	Protective Service Occupations
341	Artistic, Literary and Media Occupations
342	Design Occupations
343	Sports and Fitness Occupations
351	Transport Associate Professionals
352	Legal Associate Professionals
353	Finance Associate Professionals
354	Business Associate Professionals
355	Sales, Marketing and Related Associate Professionals
356	Public Services Associate Professionals
357	HR, Training and Other Vocational Associate Guidance Professionals
358	Regulatory Associate Professionals
411	Administrative Occupations: Government and Related Organisations
412	Administrative Occupations: Finance
413	Administrative Occupations: Records
414	Administrative Occupations: Office Managers and Supervisors
415	Other Administrative Occupations
421	Secretarial and Related Occupations
511	Agricultural and Related Trades
521	Metal Forming, Welding and Related Trades
522	Metal Machining, Fitting and Instrument Making Trades
523	Vehicle Trades

Code	Description
524	Electrical and Electronic Trades
525	Skilled Metal, Electrical and Electronic Trades Supervisors
531	Construction and Building Trades
532	Building Finishing Trades
533	Construction and Building Trades Supervisors
541	Textiles and Garments Trades
542	Printing Trades
543	Food Preparation and Hospitality Trades
544	Other Skilled Trades
611	Teaching and Childcare Support Occupations
612	Animal Care and Control Services
613	Caring Personal Services
621	Leisure and Travel Services
622	Hairdressers and Related Services
623	Housekeeping and Related Services
624	Cleaning and Housekeeping Managers and Supervisors
625	Bed and Breakfast and Guest House Owners and Proprietors
631	Community and Civil Enforcement Occupations
711	Sales Assistants and Retail Cashiers
712	Sales Related Occupations
713	Shopkeepers and Sales Supervisors
721	Customer Service Occupations

Code	Description
722	Customer Service Supervisors
811	Process Operatives
812	Metal Working Machine Operatives
813	Plant and Machine Operatives
814	Assemblers and Routine Operatives
815	Construction Operatives
816	Production, Factory and Assembly Supervisors
821	Road Transport Drivers
822	Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives
823	Other Drivers and Transport Operatives
911	Elementary Agricultural Occupations
912	Elementary Construction Occupations
913	Elementary Process Plant Occupations
921	Elementary Administration Occupations
922	Elementary Cleaning Occupations
923	Elementary Security Occupations
924	Elementary Sales Occupations
925	Elementary Storage Occupations
926	Other Elementary Services Occupations
999	Not Applicable

Code list AB

Service student

Code	Description
1	Yes (a Service student)
2	No (not a Service student)
3	Prefer not to say

86. Like veterans, Service children or children of military families are also one of the 'At Risk' groups. These are students at risk of not achieving their full potential, from aspirations through to successful outcomes and appropriate employment.
87. SFC asks Colleges to sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant which is a promise from the nation to ensure that those who serve or who have served, and their families, are treated fairly. The Covenant covers all those who form the 'Armed Forces Community' which includes spouses, civil partners and children.
88. The data on Service children or military families will enable SFC and other public bodies to plan and make informed decisions about students from service families.
89. This one-digit field identifies if a student is a 'Service student'.
90. The definition of a 'Service student' to be used is that agreed upon by the Scotland Hub of the Service Children's Progression Alliance:
91. "A person who has a parent or carer who served or is serving in the regular or reservist British Armed Forces (Royal Navy; Royal Marines; British Army; or Royal Air Force) at any point during the first 25 years of that person's life."
92. Question – this should closely mirror the above definition such as; Are you a student who has a parent or carer who served or is serving in the regular or reservist British Armed Forces (Royal Navy; Royal Marines; British Army; or Royal Air Force) at any point during the first 25 years of your life?

Code list AC

Type of care setting

93. The 'type of care setting' is a follow-on question when a student answers 'YES – in the UK' or 'Yes – outwith the UK' to the existing question on 'are you care-experienced?'
94. The 'types of care setting' are noted below: (**Note: students** should be recorded under one of the following Care Setting category codes).

Code	Description of Care Setting Category Codes
1	Residential care – living in a residential house or school
2	Foster care – living with foster carers
3	Kinship care – living with family friend or relative (other than your mum and/or dad)
4	Looked-after at home and attending Children's Hearings – with the help of social work
5	Secure care – living in a secure unit
6	Prefer not to say

95. Colleges are asked to ensure that care-experienced students self-disclose and improve on recording the number of care-experienced currently at college, to identify and support them through the full student cycle to successful outcome.
96. The rationale for introducing this question is that it will enrich the care-experienced data and give more of an insight into outcomes of the various types of care groups. Schools have this information, and it will be beneficial for this detail also to be known for further and higher education.
97. Question – Which type of care setting have you most recently lived in?

Code list AD

Reasons for withdrawal (RfW)

98. The inclusion of data about why students withdraw from their college courses will allow for a deeper understanding of the reasons why students withdraw from courses/college and should assist in prioritising student support mechanisms and in reducing student drop-out rates.
99. Colleges should align their internal student withdrawal processes to be able to gather, record and report on multiple reasons for withdrawal as detailed below.
(**Note: all** applicable reasons that apply should be selected.)
100. RfW will be required for the following FES 2 student outcome codes 01, 02, 03, 04, 10, 16.

Field	Description of reasons for withdrawal
84	Academic issues (unsatisfactory progress, engagement or performance)
85	Caring responsibilities
86	Deceased
87	Digital accessibility issues (problem accessing off campus internet and/or accessing a personal laptop or other device to undertake on-line learning activity)
88	Dissatisfied with blended learning / on-line learning experience
89	Dissatisfied with course / content
90	Disciplinary / Exclusion (including Safeguarding / PVG related issues)
91	Employer / Sponsor withdrew support - financial or time for attendance or redundancy or change of employer
92	Estranged / homelessness
93	Financial issues (including refused bursary / additional student support funds)
94	Health issues (including mental health) or impacts of disability/long-term condition
95	Non-attendance / college withdrew after lapse of time with no contact

Field	Description of reasons for withdrawal
96	To take up employment
97	Travel issues (including visa/immigration)
98	Unknown
101	Took up course offer at another institution (college or university)
107	Dissatisfied with delivery/teaching
108	Dissatisfied with student environment/culture

101. The table below provides guidance for selection of particular reasons for withdrawal.

Academic issues

(unsatisfactory progress, engagement or performance)

Student has been referred to student support due to concerns over their academic progress and has subsequently left with no other reason cited.

Student has not achieved one or more assessments (or units) and has decided to withdraw.

Student is not engaging with their studies and has not submitted or attended for assessments and has withdrawn with no other reason cited.

Caring responsibilities

Student has actively identified this as one of the reasons related to their withdrawal. If financial issues were cited too, that option should also be selected.

OR

Student is known to have caring responsibilities and has discussed concerns relating to their ability to remain on course and balance their caring responsibilities and has left with no other reason cited. Note the student record **must** identify this student as a carer for the institution to take this approach

Deceased

Student is deceased

Digital accessibility issues (problem accessing off campus internet and/or accessing a personal laptop or other device to undertake on-line learning activity)

Student has actively identified this as one of the reasons related to their withdrawal.

Dissatisfied with blended learning / on-line learning experience

Student has expressed that they are unhappy with the mode of delivery e.g. had expectations of greater in person or online content and that this has influenced their decision to withdraw.

Student has expressed that they are unhappy with the quality of online delivery and that this has influenced their decision to withdraw.

Dissatisfied with course / content

Student has stated that the course/ content is not in line with their expectations for the programme and that this has influenced their decision to withdraw.

Student is unhappy with the course quality, organisation and or timetabling and has decided to withdraw.

Disciplinary / Exclusion (including Safeguarding / PVG related issues)

Student has been excluded from their course due to disciplinary issues.

Student has chosen to leave due to disciplinary process but was not actively excluded by the college.

Student unable to complete programme (including placement) and chose to withdraw due to inability to secure a suitable PVG outcome.

Employer / Sponsor withdrew support - financial or time for attendance or redundancy or change of employer

This reason must only be used where the student's fees are paid by their employer/ sponsor or where they are enrolled on a formal apprenticeship programme which requires an employed place.

Estranged / homelessness

Student has actively identified this as one of the reasons related to their withdrawal

Financial issues (including refused bursary / additional student support funds)

Student has actively identified financial issues as one of the reasons related to their withdrawal.

Student has known financial challenges and has been unsuccessful in securing additional support funds and has subsequently withdrawn.

Health issues (including mental health) or impacts of disability/long-term condition

Student has actively identified this as one of the reasons related to their withdrawal

Non-attendance /
college withdrew after
lapse of time with no
contact

Student has demonstrated intermittent poor attendance/ a lack of attendance over a prolonged period of time before ceasing studies.

To take up employment

Student has actively identified this as one of the reasons related to their withdrawal

Travel issues (including
visa/immigration)

Student has actively identified travel issues as one of the reasons related to their withdrawal.

Note that if this is related to the cost of travel, financial issues should also be selected as a reason.

Unknown

Student withdrew without warning (including a good attendance record) and has not responded to a request to understand their reasons for withdrawal.

No other reason has been identified by the college.

Took up course offer at
another institution
(college or university)

Student has actively identified this as the reason for their withdrawal.

Section 4

Submission of FES 2 returns

Physical characteristics for data files

File format

102. Data should be submitted in a fixed length ASCII file with a '.DAT' file extension.
103. Files should be returned to SFC via the FES Data Portal by **1 October 2027** and cover all programme elements data during the entire academic session (1 August 2026 to 31 July 2027).
104. The following naming convention should be used for the FES 2 file returned to SFC:
 - B (seven-digit college code number).DAT – e.g. Borders College would read B5660459.DAT

Batch header record

105. A batch header in the following format is required for each programme requiring FES 2 data. This is then followed by the individual student records for the relevant programme (see section 3 for further details):
 - XXXXXXXXFESYYYYYZZZZ
 - Programme directory number = XXXXXXXX
 - Data collection = FES
 - College code number = YYYYYY
 - Number of student records in batch = ZZZZ

Further information

106. Please contact the SFC Data Collections team for further information, email: datareturns@sfc.ac.uk.

Appendix 1

Carer and caring responsibilities

107. There is a Yes/No check for Carer in FES 2, but we now require to know who is being cared for and will require the specific question below and the four categories to be included in student applications and college MIS systems.

108. Question – Do you have unpaid caring responsibilities for a family member who is ill, frail, disabled or has a mental health or addiction problems **or** a friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has a mental health or addiction problems?

Response – Yes, No

109. If the applicant answers YES to caring responsibilities, applicant to tick appropriate check box:

Who do you care for?

- Disabled child / children under 18
- Child / children under 18
- Adult(s) 18 and over
- Prefer not to say