

April 06 e-Learning circular

Cross-institutional use of e-learning to support lifelong learners

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- Projects on the cross-institutional use of e-learning to support lifelong learners
- Key themes include personalised learning experiences and flexible delivery to support widening participation, progression and work-based learning
- Collaborative, but led by HEI (England & Wales), or FEC with 400+ HE FTEs (England only)
- Start September 06 for two years or until March 09
 - May be opportunities for additional funding from 07
 - At least a year to be spent on large-scale use of e-L
- Up to £200,000 per project

Anticipated outcomes of these projects

- Pilot and implement new e-learning technologies to support lifelong learning to stimulate positive and informed changes in the sector.
- Build capacity, knowledge and skills in the use of e-learning to support lifelong learning.
- Generate or provide feedback on use cases, services and reference models within the e-Framework for Education and Research.
- Gain knowledge to inform future e-learning developments
- Provide guidance to the sector on the use of e-learning to support cross-institutional delivery of lifelong learning.

Strategic aims of projects

Projects must be centred on the appropriate provision of HE to learners throughout their lives, eg through:

- Facilitation of progression, including via non-traditional routes
- Work-based learning and employer engagement
- Meeting individual student needs and learner-centred provision
- Flexible delivery
- Access to HE through local, distance and part-time routes
- Support of learners with special needs
- HE in FE
- Raising aspirations and supporting uptake

Nature of the consortium

- Led by HEI (England & Wales), or FEC with 400+ HE FTEs (England only)
- Regional or national collaborations – would like a spread
- Learner-focussed: institutions which are already working together for the benefit of their learners – eg on progression routes, WBL, HE in FE
- Technology-focussed: sharing expertise on technologies and practical interoperability
- Need a plan for: management structure, governance, decision-making and funding arrangements
- Must fit with institutional strategies and sustain outcomes of project for at least 12 months after the end of project funding

- UK universities
- UK further education colleges
- Any other non-HEIs that deliver HE courses
- Employers
- Professional bodies
- Lifelong Learning Networks
- AimHigher
- New Technology Institutes
- Other regional partnerships
- Sector Skills Councils
- Information, advice and guidance services such as Connexions
- Regional Development Agencies
- Foundation Degrees Forward
- Schools and local education authorities
- Any other regional partners
- Vendors or developers of e-learning technologies

- Need to address issues of interoperability and data transfer
- Work within the e-Framework and contribute to its development
- Any technical development should be within service-oriented approach
- May also use web service-enabled tools
- Contribute use cases, business cases and good practice guidelines
- See briefing paper and session today at 3.15 for further information

Applications of the technology

- Delivery of a personalised learning experience, especially for non-traditional and work-based learners, or those studying in two places
- Use of e-portfolios and PDP, eg to support transitions, for WBL, to link study with CPD, to inform decisions on progression
- Using technology to enhance assessment practice – especially in providing flexibility for non-traditional and work-based learners, self and peer assessment
- Support of administration of teaching and learning, especially to facilitate transitions and flexible provision, eg re scheduling
- See briefing paper for work to build on

- Working examples and transferable models of the use of e-learning to support cross-institutional delivery of lifelong learning
- Evaluation report on project and issues
- Evaluation of learners' experiences
- Use cases, case studies and scenarios analysing user needs and user interactions with systems
- Guidance, briefings and issues papers
- Technical tools, systems and web services
- Feedback on reference models, specifications or service definitions within areas of the e-Framework.
- Deposit of learning materials and case studies in Jorum

- Structure for proposals and evaluation criteria are outlined in main circular.
- Note that bids in response to the e-learning call should also include scenarios showing how project will impact on learner experience.
- Submit by 12.00 on 22 June to elearning-bids@jisc.ac.uk

- Do have a look at the briefing papers available from http://www.jisc.ac.uk/capital_apr06.html
- General information on e-learning annex available from s.davies@jisc.ac.uk, 0117 331 0773.
- Information on submission process from Lesley Hawkins, l.hawkins@jisc.ac.uk, 0117 931 7277.