

Briefing Note

Sector-based work academies national roll-out

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- Sector-based work academies go live on 1 August 2011. In order to support the roll out of sector-based work academies, new changes to benefits regulations will be introduced from 5 August 2011. The new regulations will allow JSA claimants to participate in training of up to 30 hours a week (and remain on Jobseekers Allowance).
- It is important that claimant referrals are not accepted for starts on training provision until the new Regulations come into force. This change in regulations will **only** apply to skills provision being undertaken by Jobcentre Plus customers who are participating in a sector-based work academy. As a result of claimants being able to remain on Jobseeker's Allowance they will be required to continue to sign-on. Colleges and Providers will need to agree signing times with Jobcentre Plus locally in order that they minimise disruption to training delivery.
- Jobcentre Plus will still be undertaking a great deal of preparation that can be done to support the establishment of local partnerships and employer engagement. Providers are encouraged to engage with employers and Jobcentre Plus in advance of 5 August.
- Colleges and providers should be aware of the change in regulation in planning their response to requests for provision from Jobcentre Plus.

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