

SLC answers to SROC delegates questions raised on 17th March, 2015

These are the answers given by SLC colleagues to questions that I was asked at my SROC presentation and that I promised to report back to the delegates.

1. When will the full name and title of a course be visible in the whole of SIS?
This will be available from July, 2015.
2. When will advisers at Student Finance England have access to Course Management Service (CMS) to stop advisement that course is not promoted when it is?
All assessors now have read only access to Course Management Service.
3. Why is there a limit on location codes within the CMS portal?
The portal currently caters for every letter in the Alphabet and number from 0-9 totalling a maximum of 35. Should there be a sector need to increase this then an amendment request could take place.
4. Why are JACS codes being asked in the collation of courses within CMS?
This is policy driven and will assist in determining the courses that will be exempt from ELQ restrictions.
5. Will the SLC Course Code still be on the files and can we export this?
The SLC Course Code will be the new unique course identifier, but the export files do not show the SLC Course Code. This is being looked at as an urgent enhancement request by the SLC.
6. Can we pull data out by the Unique Course Identifier (SLC Course Code)?
The SLC Course Code is the unique course identifier unlike the UCAS course code that has historically been used for Attendance Returns. This will not go onto the portal until June, 2015. Therefore for the April return the UCAS course Code will be the course identifier.
7. Will the course identifier problem causing manual input at Attendance Returns be solved for April?
No as the request to use the SLC course code will not be made until June, 2015.
8. Can I still use UCAS Course Codes to submit my attendance returns?
Not from September, 2015 although the SLC are aware that some institutions use the UCAS course codes in their mapping. They are looking at ways of exporting the UCAS Course Code as well, and in the long term use both within the export files. The sector generally prefers SLC Course Codes as they are unique course identifiers that will solve the issue at Attendance Returns of 'unable to process as the course is not uniquely identified'.
9. Why can locations not be changed within CMS?
If students have already applied for a course within that location then no amendments can be made.
10. Why can qualifications not be amended or edited?
The view was taken to streamline the offering after discussions with sector representatives and they feel at a broad level that these have been captured.
11. Why can multiple entry points within a programme be offered?
This is a new enhancement that is due shortly. The multiple entries offering within the part-time CMS has been well received.
12. Will next year's CMS input be easier?
The SLC are looking at a simplified copy function to assist the process.

13. Can there be some security function to stop courses going live immediately?

The SLC had feedback from the sector that the old approvals process was clunky and this new CMS would resolve this. All delegates seemed happy with the promoting aspect and perhaps the security could be dealt with within the institution as to access to promote courses within CMS.

14. When a Date of Birth is wrong the institution not the SLC seem to be asked to prove this?

The SLC verifies this data with the Passport Office and therefore the responsibility is on the student to correct this should this be the case.

15. The Student Support Number (SSN) is to be more visible?

The SLC ensures with the new streamlined notification letters that this is the case.