Graduate Outcomes Survey

# Change Log February 2018: 2018 graduate survey (comparison with documentation issued November 2017)

This document lists the changes to the 2018 graduate survey, code book, data items and guidance, with comparison to the version issued in November 2017. These changes take account of some clarifications requested on the survey.

*Changes to Cohort to be surveyed*

The following paragraph is inserted in the “Cohort of graduates to be considered” document.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Graduates of Continuing Professional Development programmes or modules should not be included in the survey cohort. The term “Continuing Professional Development” should be understood to be standalone programmes or modules delivered for the express purpose of in-employment continuing development. The HEI must satisfy itself that such graduates were in attendance in the institution for the purpose of completing the programme/module for the purposes of professional development, as part of an already established career path. Consideration will be given to how best capture the outcomes associated with such graduates in future years.

*Survey methodology*

The following paragraph is inserted in the “Cohort of graduates to be considered” document and replaces the last paragraph in the earlier version.

Graduates of level 8, 9 and 10 programmes (all HEIs)

All graduates of major level 8, 9 or 10 awards should be surveyed (noting the exception in relation to CPD above).  Graduates of level 8, 9 or 10 programmes who are engaged in further study within the same institution should not have their survey responses pre-populated using the institution’s academic or other records.  However, once the survey fieldwork period has elapsed and all survey responses have been collected, the institution may populate the survey return for remaining graduates in further study within the institution who have not responded to the survey.  A “Response” field code of ‘3’ **must** be recorded, and   their further study details should be added to their data return file (responses to questions in Section 3 of the survey, Q3A1 – Q3F). Their full-time or part-time study details should be added to their return file under Q1 for “Principal Economic Status - MOST”.

It should be noted that such graduates will not appear in HEA reporting of graduate outcomes and will not contribute to the calculation of the institution’s response rate.

*Code Book*

The response field in the code book has been amended as follows:

Response Code ‘3’ now states: “Continuing graduate from level 6 or 7 (IoT), or continuing level 8/9/10 graduate with information populated after the survey process has concluded.”

*Data items*

Item 16 in the “Data Items” document, third bullet has been amended to state:

If “Response” = 3, this means that the graduate is a continuing student from a level 6 or level 7 programme and administrative data is being used to populate their return. It can also mean that the graduate is at level 8, 9 or 10 and is continuing in education within their institution. In this case the graduate has received the survey, but has not responded to the survey and administrative data is being used to populate their return. They should return ‘4’ or ‘5’ under Principal\_Economic\_Status\_MOST and should be blank under Principal\_Economic\_Status\_ALL.