

Setting numerical thresholds for condition B3: Notification of amendments and clarifications

The Office for Students published a document titled ‘Setting numerical thresholds for condition B3’ on 20 January 2022.

We have subsequently found errors in the document. In addition, we have found instances where we consider that it is helpful to amend or clarify the text for the benefit of readers in order that respondents can better understand the proposals.

We have carefully considered the changes made and concluded that all of the amendments are minor and have no material effect on our overall proposals.

We are therefore republishing this document with the necessary amendments. In addition, we have produced below a list of all of the amendments and the reasons why these were considered necessary or helpful. We have produced this document to ensure transparency, and to ensure that our consultation proposals have been clearly and accurately explained for respondents.

Notification of amendments

Tables 1 and 2 set out all of the amendments we have made and the reasons for these changes.

We have included references to the minimum numerical thresholds as used in ‘Setting numerical thresholds for condition B3’. We have included page references to tracked changes version of the document published alongside this note.

Table 1: Changes made to Annex A

Section	Details of amendments	Reason for amendment
Annex A: Table A1.	p9 – reversed incorrectly transposed figures for upper and lower confidence thresholds within table.	Correction.
Annex A: Table A6.	p14 – changed ‘-53’ to ‘-5.3’ in relation to the upper confidence threshold for students reporting a mental health condition.	Correction.
Annex A: Table A11.	p20 – changed ‘2,295’ to ‘27,295’ in relation to the number of students aged 51 years and over.	Correction.

Table 2: Changes made to Annex B

Section	Details of amendments	Reason for amendment
1. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p24 – changed to ‘8.8%’ to ‘8.7%’ in reference to ‘students studying at providers with point estimates below recommended threshold level’.	Correction to drafting error.
4. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p32 – changed ‘85 per cent’ to ‘70 per cent’ in reference to proposed numerical threshold. This is in relation to the tests undertaken on the proposed threshold and is not a proposed change to the threshold itself.	Correction to drafting error.
4. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p32 – changed ‘14.5 per cent’ to ‘14.8 per cent’ in reference to proportion of providers with point estimates below the numerical threshold.	Correction to drafting error.
5. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p35 – changed ‘8.7 percentage points’ to ‘7.5 percentage points’ in relation to the difference from overall weighted sector median for mental health disability.	Correction to drafting error.
5. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p35 – changed ‘80.8 per cent’ to ‘82.1 per cent’ and ‘89.5 per cent’ to ‘89.6 per cent’ in relation to the overall weighted sector median for mental health disability and the overall weighted sector median.	Correction to drafting error.
7. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p42 – changed ‘68.1 per cent’ to ‘68.2 per cent’ and changed reference to be clear this relates to the weighted median for black students.	Correction to drafting error.
7. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p42 – inserted ‘UK-domiciled’ to accurately describe the student population referred to in the analysis.	Correction to drafting error.
7. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p43 – changed ‘18.3 per cent’ to ‘18.6 per cent’ in reference to proportion of providers with point estimates below the numerical threshold.	Correction to drafting error.
7. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p43 – changed ‘22.3 per cent’ to ‘22.1 per cent’ in reference to the proportion of students studying at providers with point estimates below the numerical threshold.	Correction to drafting error.
7. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p43 – changed ‘85%’ to ‘70%’ in relation to proposed numerical threshold. This is in relation to the tests undertaken on the proposed threshold and is not a proposed change to the threshold itself.	Correction to drafting error.
9. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p51 – changed ‘19’ to ‘6’, and ‘21.6%’ to ‘6.8%’ in reference to the table showing providers with point estimates below the numerical threshold.	Correction to drafting error.
9. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p51 – changed ‘6,370’ to ‘2,090’, and ‘5.2%’ to ‘1.7%’ in reference to the table showing students studying at providers with point estimates below the numerical threshold.	Correction to drafting error.
10. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p53 – changed ‘25,277’ to ‘25,280’ in relation to size of student population for this indicator.	Correction to drafting error.

Section	Details of amendments	Reason for amendment
10. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p53 – amended text in ‘Analysis’ section relating to subject level data for clarity.	Clarification of text.
10. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p53 – changed ‘37.2 per cent’ to ‘35.8 per cent’ in relation to weighted median rate for agriculture. Changed ‘43.7 per cent’ to ‘40.7 per cent’ in relation to weighted median rates for Business and Management. Removed weighted median figure for ‘Politics’ due to suppression of data.	Correction to drafting error.
10. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p53 – changed ‘18 per cent’ to ‘17 per cent’ in relation to the total student population accounted for by the subject areas.	Correction to drafting error.
10. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p53 – changed ‘20’ to ‘9’, and ‘9’ to ‘11’ per cent in reference to providers with point estimates and benchmarks below the numerical threshold. Additionally changed the number of providers that are performing above individual benchmarks from ‘one’ to ‘three’.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p57 – amended text in ‘Analysis’ section relating to subject level data for clarity.	Clarification of text.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p57 - Changed ‘62.1 per cent’ to ‘67.9 per cent’ in relation weighted median rate for History and Archaeology.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p57 - Changed ‘56.5 per cent’ to ‘57.2 per cent’ in relation weighted median rate for Agriculture.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p57 - Changed ‘64.0 per cent’ to ‘64.1 per cent’ in relation weighted median rate for Media, journalism and communications.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p57 - Changed ‘59.8 per cent’ to ‘59.9 per cent’ in relation weighted median rate for Psychology.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p57 - Changed ‘59.3 per cent’ to ‘56.8 per cent’ in relation weighted median rate for Sociology, social policy and anthropology.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p57 - changed ‘14.5 per cent’ to ‘17 per cent’ in relation to the total student population accounted for by the subject areas.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p58 – changed ‘43’ to ‘18’, and ‘17’ to ‘10.7’ per cent in reference to providers with point estimates and benchmarks below the numerical threshold.	Correction to drafting error.
11. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p59 – changed ‘11’ to ‘5’ in reference to the number of providers with benchmarks below a proposed numerical threshold of 60 per cent.	Correction to drafting error.
12. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p61 – amended text in ‘Analysis’ section relating to subject-level data for clarity.	Clarification of text.

Section	Details of amendments	Reason for amendment
12. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p61 – removed weighted median figures due to suppression of data.	Correction to drafting error.
13. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p64 – amended text to clarify that our Exploring Student Outcomes analysis uses three categories in relation to ‘Black British’ students and to provide details of the largest performance gap in relation to this indicator.	Clarification of text.
14. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p67 – amended text to include the values for weighted median performance of black and mixed ethnicity students.	Clarification of text.
14. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p67 – amended text to clarify references to our Exploring Student Outcomes analysis.	Clarification of text.
16. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p73 – changed ‘5.1 to ‘4.9’, and ‘8’ to ‘7.9’ in reference to the percentage points performance differences for students reporting a mental health condition.	Correction to drafting error.
16. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p73 – changed ‘73.7 per cent’ to ‘71.8 per cent’ in relation to percentage of student population for this indicator studying at one provider.	Correction to drafting error.
16. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p74 – changed ‘18’ to ‘11’, and ‘12.9’ to ‘7.9’ per cent in reference to the number and proportion of providers with point estimates and benchmarks.	Correction to drafting error.
17. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p76 – replaced incorrect sector distribution chart with correct sector distribution chart for this mode and level of study.	Correction to drafting error.
17. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p78 – changed reference to ‘COMPIND’ to ‘compound’.	Correction to drafting error.
18. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p81 – changed reference to ‘COMPIND’ to ‘compound’.	Correction to drafting error.
19. Numerical thresholds for completion – compound indicator: Part-time undergraduate.	p84 – changed ‘15.6%’ to ‘15.7%’ in relation to the percentage of providers with point estimates and individual benchmarks below the numerical thresholds.	Correction to drafting error.
20. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p86 – removed ‘64.6 per cent’ and ‘57.3 per cent’ incorrectly referred to as weighted medians and replaced with ‘58.4 per cent’ and ‘38.9 percent’ in reference to the weighted median for students of black and unknown ethnicity.	Correction to drafting error.
20. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p86 – changed ‘48.6 per cent’ to ‘32.5 per cent’ in reference to the sector weighted median for students reporting a mental health condition.	Correction to drafting error.

Section	Details of amendments	Reason for amendment
20. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p86 – changed ‘8.4 percentage points’ to ‘between 7.9 and 4.9 percentage points’ in reference to performance differences for students reporting a mental health condition. Also inserted ‘UK-domiciled’ to accurately record the student population used in the analysis.	Correction to drafting error.
22. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p92 – changed ‘16,815’ to ‘16,810’ in reference to the student population for this indicator.	Correction to drafting error.
22. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p92 – amended text in ‘Analysis’ section relating to subject level data for clarity.	Correction to drafting error.
22. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p92 – removed weighted median figures due to suppression of data.	Correction to drafting error.
22. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p92 – changed ‘77.1 per cent’ to ‘76.5 per cent’ in relation weighted median rate for creative arts and design.	Correction to drafting error.
22. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p92 – changed ‘58.9 per cent’ to ‘72.4 per cent’ in relation weighted median rate for creative arts and design.	Correction to drafting error.
22. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p93 – changed ‘seven’ to ‘six’ in reference to the number of providers with point estimates and benchmarks below a numerical threshold of 80 per cent.	Correction to drafting error.
23. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p96 – changed ‘16,000’ to ‘15,980’ in reference to the student population for this indicator.	Correction to drafting error.
23. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p96 – changed ‘two’ to ‘no’ providers in reference to the number of providers with point estimates and benchmarks below a numerical threshold of 65 per cent.	Correction to drafting error.
25. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p100 – removed incorrect statement indicating benchmarked data not available for undergraduate apprenticeship study and inserted statement considering the effect of benchmarked data.	Correction to drafting error.
26. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p103 – changed ‘46.7 per cent’ to ‘32.0 per cent’ and ‘3.8 per cent’ to ‘3.7 per cent’ in relation to students reporting a disability.	Correction to drafting error.
26. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p103 – removed incorrect statement indicating benchmarked data not available for undergraduate apprenticeship study and inserted statement considering the effect of benchmarked data.	Correction to drafting error.
27. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p106 – removed incorrect statement indicating benchmarked data not available for undergraduate apprenticeship study and inserted statement considering the effect of benchmarked data.	Correction to drafting error.
28. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p109 – removed incorrect statement indicating benchmarked data not available for undergraduate	Correction to drafting error.

Section	Details of amendments	Reason for amendment
	apprenticeship study and inserted statement considering the effect of benchmarked data.	
29. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p111 – changed ‘0.4’ to ‘0.5’ percentage points in relation to the performance gap for mature students.	Correction to drafting error.
30. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p114 – changed ‘85.8 per cent’ to ‘84.8 per cent’ and corrected reference to Black or Black British – Caribbean students in reference to performance gap for black UK-domiciled students.	Correction to drafting error.
31. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p117 – changed ‘10 per cent’ to ‘10.1 per cent’ in reference to providers with point estimates below the numerical threshold.	Correction to drafting error.
34. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	P126 – changed reference to ‘COMPIND’ to ‘compound’.	Correction to drafting error.
42. Numerical threshold for: Progression.	p150 – removed incorrect statement indicating availability of benchmarked data for subject area in postgraduate study and inserted statement referencing mechanisms for considering contextual factors.	Correction to drafting error.
46. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p163 – changed ‘69.9 per cent’ to ‘67.3 per cent’ and ‘6.6’ to ‘10.7’ percentage points in relation to performance gaps for black students.	Correction to drafting error.
46. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p163 – clarified use of Exploring Student Outcomes data.	Clarification of text.
47. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p166 – changed ‘70.3 per cent’ to ‘68.3 per cent’ in relation to the weighted sector median for black students.	Correction to drafting error.
47. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p166 – changed ‘12.7’ to ‘between 13.1 and 8.1’ percentage points and corrected text for ethnicity grouping in relation to performance gaps for black students.	Correction to drafting error.
49. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p173 – changed reference to ‘COMPIND’ to ‘compound’.	Correction to drafting error.
50. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p175 – changed ‘22.5 per cent’ to ‘22.4 per cent’ in relation to providers with a point estimate below a numerical threshold of 70 per cent.	Correction to drafting error.
52. Numerical threshold for: Completion – cohort tracking.	p181 – changed ‘63.7 per cent’ to ‘64.6 per cent’ in relation to performance gaps for students reporting a disability.	Correction to drafting error.
54. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p187 – changed ‘10.3’ to ‘8.7’ percentage points and ‘9’ to ‘7.5’ percentage points and clarified labelling in relation to estimated performance differences for ethnicity groupings.	Correction to drafting error.

Section	Details of amendments	Reason for amendment
61. Numerical threshold for: Continuation.	p208 – changed ‘3,689’ to ‘3,870’ in relation to the student population for this indicator.	Correction to drafting error.
63. Numerical threshold for: Completion – compound indicator.	p212 – changed ‘1,663’ to ‘1,670’ in relation to the student population for this indicator.	Correction to drafting error.