

The functions of the Education Funding Agency (EFA)

The Education Funding Agency (EFA) will be responsible for the operation of the education capital and revenue funding system and the delivery of capital programmes. Responsibility for the development of education funding policy will rest with the relevant policy directorates within the Department for Education. The EFA will provide advice to policy colleagues to support effective policy making. Decisions on funding policy are ultimately the responsibility of Ministers. Corporate services will be provided by the Department.

The Education Funding Agency (EFA) will be responsible for the following functions

- Calculation and notification of funding allocations to local authorities, academies and Free Schools and responding to queries about those calculations.
- Payment of the Dedicated Schools Grant and the Pupil Premium to local authorities for their maintained primary and secondary schools, including those with sixth forms.
- Payment of funding to academies and Free Schools.
- Ensuring academy and Free School funding agreement compliance.
- Responsive case management.
- Ensuring general funding compliance.
- Financial monitoring and assurance.
- Support for education providers in achieving value for money and ensuring efficient use of resources.
- Support to sponsors and education providers on funding and financial matters.
- Provision of advice and guidance as required by statute and as required by the sectors.
- Investigation of suspected fraud or financial irregularity.
- Provide advice to the Department's policy directorates to inform the development of funding policy.
- Calculation, notification and payment of funding allocations to 16-19 providers and 16-25 learners with learning difficulties or disabilities (LLDD) providers, and responding to queries about those calculations.
- Ensuring general funding compliance.
- Distribution of learner support bursaries to providers.
- Financial monitoring and assurance.

Appendix A

- Support to providers in achieving value for money and ensuring efficient use of resources.
- Support to providers on funding and financial matters.
- Provision of advice and guidance as required by statute and as required by the sectors.
- Investigation of suspected fraud or financial irregularity.
- Responsive case management.
- Support to Secretary of State in his role as Principal Regulator.
- Provide advice to the Department's policy directorates to inform the development of funding policy.
- Notification and payment of capital allocations to local authorities, schools and others.
- Financial management of schools capital programmes.
- Managing the co-location fund, the secure homes capital programme and PFI revenue payments.
- Making payments under the Voluntary-Aided (VA) Capital Programme (including VA PFI payments).
- Project management of Framework Academy capital projects and advise on procurement of new accommodation for academies.
- Delivery, project management, support and advice for PFI procurements.
- Provide Free School proposers with advice, support the Department's assessment of Free School proposals and purchase and hold land and buildings to accommodate Free Schools.
- Support to academy converters (including PFI), studio schools and University Technical Colleges through advice to providers and sponsors.
- Support to operational PFI projects. Liaison with HMT and other government departments.
- Manage framework contracts to support any schools capital project.
- Support and advice across capital programmes on ICT infrastructure and services.
- Support for Building Schools for the Future projects.
- School assets - administer applications, and provide evidence for recommendations to the Secretary of State on the disposal of assets.
- Building design guidance - provide advice and guidance on all aspects of school building design and construction cost matters.
- Pupil place planning - collect and review local authorities' pupil forecasts as part of the annual school capacity survey.

- Stakeholder management, including relationship and market management in relation to capital investment.
- Allocation and distribution of capital funding to 16-19 providers.

Taken from pages on the DfE website: The Education Funding Agency:
EFA functions (as of 31 October 2011):

<http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/armslengthbodies/b00199952/the-education-funding-agency/efa-functions-as-of-31-october-2011>