



Guideline for providers regarding former Springboard participants who wish to take up a Springboard+ place

This guideline assists providers in making decisions on applications from former Springboard participants who now wish to take up a Springboard+ course.

The overall aim of Springboard+ is to cross-skill or up-skill participants to return to sustainable employment as quickly as possible and to fill skills gaps in the economy. For that reason it is expected that, on completion of their Springboard course, the majority of graduates actively seek work using their new qualification. For some participants, however, a further Springboard+ qualification may be an appropriate next step and progression to a higher-level award within the same skills area is permitted.

The following will therefore apply for Springboard+:

1 Previous Springboard+ participants who have successfully completed a Springboard course and who wish to take up a place

Those who have either undertaken or have successfully completed a Springboard+ course may be eligible to apply for a course place in the coming academic year. Previous participants who wish to undertake another Springboard+ course must be progressing to a higher-level award in the same academic discipline.

Priority in the awarding of places must be given to those who are long-term unemployed as well those who have not previously undertaken a Springboard+ course.

Applicants who have successfully completed a Springboard+ course may be required to liaise with the relevant provider to update their online status.

2 Participants who enrolled on but did not successfully complete a Springboard course

- Applicants who have undertaken, but have not successfully completed, more than one Springboard+ course are not eligible to undertake a further Springboard+ course of study.
- Where an applicant has undertaken two courses but was unsuccessful in the second course, they are not eligible to apply.
- Where an applicant has undertaken two courses, and were unsuccessful in the first course but successfully completed the second course, they are eligible to apply this year. However, these applicants **must** be progressing to a higher qualification award in the same skills category.
- Applicants that participated on just one Springboard+ course since 2011, but who did not complete for a valid personal reason are eligible to reapply but will be required to meet all eligibility criteria.

As noted above, priority in the awarding of places must be given to those who are long-term unemployed as well those who have not previously undertaken a Springboard+ course.

Springboard+, Higher Education Authority

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