



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

This guideline aims to provide clarity to former Springboard+ participants on their eligibility and assist course providers in making decisions on applications from those participants who now wish to take up a place on another Springboard+ course.

The overall aim of Springboard+ is to cross-skill or up-skill participants to fill skills gaps in the economy and, in the case of unemployed participants, to return to sustainable employment as quickly as possible. 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. Participation on a previous Springboard+ does not confer eligibility for any subsequent course and applicants must continue to meet all relevant eligibility requirements.

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. Former participants must continue to meet all the eligibility criteria,

Participants may not enrol in more than three courses in any five-year period. They may re-engage with the Springboard+ programme after a break period of two years. These criteria will be strictly enforced.

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

- Where an applicant has undertaken two courses and were unsuccessful in the first course but successfully completed the second course, they are **eligible to reapply**.
- 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.
- 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.

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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