

AD2023-018 – Remove Redundant Reference Data from Link Products

Technical Briefing Document

Contents

Introduction	2
Solution Approach	2
Technical Implementation	2
System Changes	2
Deployment Timelines	4

Terms used:

‘HEP’ Higher Education Provider

Supporting documents

This document should be used in conjunction with:

‘AD2023-48 HESA data changes’ technical briefing document [Pending]

[Decision processing manual](#) – for details on application transactions

[2022 Undergraduate Admissions Guide](#) – including detailed information about the procedures for each stage of the application process.

[2022 Conservatoires Admissions Guide](#) – describes the procedures used in processing applications for courses included in the scheme and contains additional information relevant to those procedures.

[Link product system guides/technical manuals](#) – details on the technical specifications of link products.

Introduction

Reference data is passed to providers through the Link Products (XML-Link, Web-Link, ODBC-Link) and HEPs use this data when offering places to applicants.

This change will remove redundant reference data and make sure only the active reference data is available for HEPs.

Solution Approach

To achieve this, the new fields will be added to the reference data tables and based on these new fields the methods/views will be updated to receive only the active reference data for that cycle.

Link products methods/views will be amended to include only valid reference data based on the newly added fields VALID_FROM, VALID_TO, CYCLE_CODE_FROM, CYCLE_CODE_TO.

Technical Implementation

The reference data views/methods mentioned in below system changes section will be amended to fetch only valid reference data based on the new fields (VALID_FROM, VALID_TO, CYCLE_CODE_FROM, CYCLE_CODE_TO).

The following reference data will be amended as part of the 'AD2023-48 HESA data changes' technical briefing document.

- Disability Data
- Care Leaver
- Ethnicity Data
- Gender ID
- National Identity
- Religion
- Sexual Orientation

System Changes

XML-Link

- The following XML-Link methods will be amended to fetch only valid reference data based on the new fields VALID_FROM, VALID_TO, CYCLE_CODE_FROM, CYCLE_CODE_TO.
 - getRefPermanentResidenceAreas
 - getReferenceCare
 - getReferenceInCareDuration

- getReferenceCountriesOfBirth
- getReferenceDisabilities
- getReferenceEstablishGroups
- getReferenceEthnics
- getReferenceGenIdenDiff
- getRefLocalEducationAuthorities
- getReferenceNationality
- getRefParentalHE
- getUCASReferenceNHSRegions
- getReferenceReligionBelief
- getReferenceSchoolYear
- getReferenceTariffs
- getReferenceSchoolTypes

ODBC-Link

- The following ODBC-Link reference data views will be amended to fetch only valid reference data based on the new fields VALID_FROM, VALID_TO, CYCLE_CODE_FROM, CYCLE_CODE_TO.
 - CVNREFREGION
 - CVREFAPR
 - CVREFCARE
 - CVREFCAREDURATION
 - CVREFCOUNTRY
 - CVREFDIS
 - CVREFESTGROUP
 - CVREFETHNIC
 - CVREFGENIDENDIFF
 - CVREFLEA
 - CVREFNATIONALITY
 - CVREFPARENTINHE
 - CVREFRELIGIONBELIEF
 - CVREFSCHOOLTYPE
 - CVREFSCHOOLYEAR

Web-Link

- Data available from the 'Reference Information' menu will be amended to fetch only valid reference data based on the new fields VALID_FROM, VALID_TO, CYCLE_CODE_FROM, CYCLE_CODE_TO.

○ APR ○ Care codes ○ Care duration codes ○ Country of birth ○ Disability ○ Establishment group ○ Ethnic origin ○ Regions ○ Religion/Belief	- Area of Permanent Residence (domicile) codes - Care codes and names - Care duration codes and names - Country of birth codes and names - Disability codes and text - Establishment group codes and text - Ethnic origin codes and text - Region codes and text - Religion/Belief codes and text
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|--------------------------------------|---|
| ○ School type | School type codes and text |
| ○ School year | School year codes and text |
| ○ Sexual orientation | Sexual orientation codes and text |
| ○ Tariff | Exam grades and tariff scores |
| ○ Identifies as transgender | Identifies as transgender codes and text |
| ○ Nationality | Nationality codes |
| ○ Parent Higher Education Attendance | Parent Higher Education Attendance codes and text |

Deployment Timelines

HEP 1	HEP 2	Production
TBC	TBC	TBC