

Who is the Association of Employment and Learning Providers?



In June 2011, the Association of Learning Providers changed its name to the Association of Employment and Learning Providers (AELP).

The name change reflects the fact that AELP has been until recently almost a lone voice going back ten years in advocating a more integrated approach by government to employment and skills. AELP have always maintained that unemployed people were more likely to secure sustainable employment if they had access to skills training. Sustainable employment with integrated skills training is now a requirement of the coalition administration's new Work Programme.

Our goal is to influence the education, skills and employment agenda to secure:

- An integrated employment and skills strategy meeting employer and individual needs
- A 14-19 learning curriculum giving equal weight to the vocational and academic

- Opportunities for lifelong learning and sustainable employment for all
- A government-supported market open to all providers offering high-quality learning.

AELP has over 600 member providers from the private, public and third sectors with voluntary sector providers comprising up to a third of the membership. Approximately 50 Further Education (FE) Colleges are also members.

AELP is a non-profit organisation, open to any organisation committed to quality vocational learning and employability services. AELP highly values its members' input and contribution.

Our funding source comes primarily from our membership. This allows us to sustain the independence of AELP and helps to focus our advocacy and membership services for our members.

“We have been and will continue to be the single representative voice for employment and skills providers. AELP’s new name will send a strong signal to policymakers and other opinion-formers that we remain determined to influence the further development of integrating government employment and skills policy.”

Martin Dunford OBE
AELP Chairman

We are recognised as one of the national stakeholders within the skills and employability landscape, with regular dialogue with all the key national policy makers and Government Departments, e.g. *Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), Department for Education (DfE) and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)*.

Having achieved the opening up of the further education market to a mix of providers after a ten-year fight, AELP is now calling on independent providers to follow the example of colleges and move into Higher Education.

Did you know?

AELP members are playing a key role in the design and delivery of government-funded programmes.

Employer Engagement

AELP providers currently engage with almost **300,000** employers across the country.

Apprenticeships

Approximately **75%** of the estimated **400,000+** Apprenticeships in England are delivered by AELP members.

In 2010/11, **117,240** learners completed an apprenticeship with AELP members.

Over **124,000** 16-18 apprentices are on AELP members' programmes.

Nearly **160,500** 19+ year old apprentices are on AELP members' programmes.

Other skills attainment

182,420 trainees got stand-alone NVQs and achieved basic skills.

86,620 trainees achieved Level 3 qualifications or above in 2010/11.

AELP members currently have **24,190** young people on a Foundation Learning programme.

Getting people jobs

At least **55,000** people were placed in a job last year by AELP members through the previous welfare to work programmes.

8,730 young people found jobs through a former state funded foundation programme, thanks to AELP members.

70% of the Work Programme prime contractors are AELP members with many other members listed as subcontractors.

Workforce

AELP members are also major employers in their own right. Members employ **75,200** as a workforce including full and part time staff.

96% of AELP members are performing satisfactorily or higher according to inspections.

60% of the quality of provision by AELP members is either good or outstanding.



Carla Slaughter accepting the 600th Member award on behalf of Critical Skills UK Ltd from AELP Chairman, Martin Dunford OBE.

AELP adds 100 more members during 2010/11

In June 2011 *Critical Skills (UK) Ltd*, with a head-office in Derbyshire became the association's 600th member. This is a medium sized vocational learning provider with training centres across the Midlands region helping unemployed people back into work. Referring to the leap

in its membership over the past twelve months despite the economic pressures on businesses, AELP Chairman Martin Dunford said that achieving the milestone of 600 members was "a clear recognition that AELP is providing an authoritative and influential voice for its members".



Reasons to be an AELP Member...

- AELP provides a unified 'single voice on behalf of all employment and skills providers from the private, public and third sectors
- AELP protects members' interests and represents members' views
- AELP works tirelessly to ensure its members' views are taken into account by the Government and other national stakeholders
- AELP is working in partnership with the government and other key stakeholders to influence policy direction and implementation in respect of quality skills and employability provision
- AELP Members are kept informed through its popular email briefing **Countdown** and other bimonthly newsletter **Connect** and monthly digest, **Sector Connect**
- AELP Members can participate in exclusive occupational sector forum or programme led special interest groups
- AELP Members receive preferential delegate rates to attend the national conference or branded event activities
- AELP Members receive concession rates with selected third party organisations' services and products
- AELP Members have an effective dialogue and engagement with **Sector Skills Councils/Standard Setting Bodies** and **Awarding Organisations**
- AELP works collaboratively with the **Association of Colleges (AoC)**, the **Alliance of Sector Skills Councils** and other national representative organisations including **Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS)**
- AELP have member representatives working with government departments BIS, DfE, DWP and funding authorities, **Skills Funding Agency** (the Agency), **Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA)** and **Jobcentre Plus (JCP)** plus other national Stakeholders
- AELP successfully campaigned for the single **Adult Skills Budget**.



**One voice,
representing
members'
views,
protecting
members'
interests**

First to know...

As a Member organisation you will be the first to learn about and have exclusive access to up-to-date information and analysis about policy changes which will affect skills and employment providers in their occupational skill area and sector footprint.

As a member you will receive regular communications, supported by AELP's highly respected and easily digestible

members' newsletter **Countdown**. Plus as a member, you will receive other important information about events and market developments in our bi monthly publication **Connect** and monthly digest **Sector Connect**. Members also have exclusive access to restricted pages on the AELP website about information on government policies, AELP responses and press releases and **members-only forums**.



Are you now ready to become a member?

To discuss becoming an AELP Member and to begin to reap the benefits, please contact a staff member from the AELP Marketing & Membership team on **0117 947 2090** who will be happy to assist you with your enquiries or

email the AELP Office enquires@aelp.org.uk subject **AELP Membership**.

For more information visit the AELP homepage www.aelp.org.uk.

