

## University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2016

### Ref: #10 UoMQStep 2016 Education Funding Agency Data Analysis

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**Organisation Name:** The Education Funding Agency

**Team / Department:** Data Analysis Services, Post-16 Funding Analysis & Modelling Team

**Address:** Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD

**Provisional title for project:** Support for Post-16 Funding Analysis – Impact assessment and policy modelling

**100 word abstract of what the project would probably undertake, and any data to be used:**

Providing analytical support to policy colleagues, developing a robust evidence base for the predicted and actual impact of recent & proposed changes to post-16 education funding and sharing key messages with internal customers.

The EFA is an executive agency of the Department for Education, the post-16 budget is approximately £6bn per year, the team provides analytical support for key policy changes affecting that budget. To achieve this we use school census and college individualised learner record (ILR) data, in combination with published post-16 allocations to model future funding for schools & colleges and student participation impact assessment.

**Key words (up to 12):**

Impact analysis, fast-paced, predictive analytics, data manipulation, education funding, post-16 education & skills, strategic analysis, civil service

## **Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:**

### **Essential:**

MS Excel – interpretation, manipulation of data

MS Word – presentation of results, written analytical skills, describing your analysis to a non-technical audience.

MS Office – emails, managing your own calendar, written communications with colleagues.

### **Desirable:**

Advanced excel skills – pivot tables, manipulating large datasets

SQL – absolutely not essential, but the team does use SQL so a basic understanding is a benefit.

## **Where the work would be carried out:**

DfE Manchester Office – Piccadilly Gate – address above.

## **Preferred selection method (interview or other meeting):**

Interview

## **Support and training offered by the organisation:**

Familiarisation with how national government works using data and analytical tools to provide robust evidence-driven policy considerations

Opportunity to gain experience of what it is like to work in the civil service generally and in an analytical role

Task-specific – setting out details of the post-16 funding formula, context of the number and type of education institutions we fund.

Some basic support with MS Word / Excel if needed

Ad hoc, day to day support, the candidate will be based with 2 of the team members here in Manchester.

## **Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:**

No access to individual student level data is needed, however some of our work supports confidential policy proposals or similar that cannot be externally shared.

**Supporting information:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/education-funding-agency>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/funding-education-for-16-to-19-year-olds>

<https://www.gov.uk/16-to-19-education-funding-allocations>

**Financial assistance offered by the organisation:**

Nil