## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Further Education Loans Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/1818) (the "2012 Regulations").

Regulation 3 amends regulation 3 of the 2012 Regulations to change the eligibility criteria for students.

Regulation 4 amends regulation 5(3) of the 2012 Regulations to alter the period during which a person retains eligible student status.

Regulation 5 amends regulation 7 of the 2012 Regulations to limit the period in which a student qualifies for a loan after a course has started as a result of that course becoming a designated further education course.

Regulation 6 amends regulation 13 of the 2012 Regulations to allow electronic signatures to be used for contracts.

Regulation 7 amends the standard entitlement to loans in regulation 15 of the 2012 Regulations.

Regulation 8 amends regulation 16 of the 2012 Regulations to clarify the end date for the application of the maximum loan amounts set out in the document published by the Skills Funding Agency on 5th February 2015 entitled "Funding rates for 24+ Advanced Learning Loans designated qualifications 2015 to 2016, Version 1" and to set out the method for ascertaining the maximum loan amount for fees for courses beginning in the period beginning 1st August 2016 and ending on 31st July 2017 which is set out in the document published by the Skills Funding Agency on 17th February 2016 entitled "Maximum Loan Amounts for Advanced Learner Loans designated qualifications 2016 to 2017, Version 1". The publication can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/maximum-loan-amounts-for-advanced-learner-loans-designated-qualifications-2016-to-2017 and a copy can be obtained from the Skills Funding Agency, Cheylesmore House, Quinton Road, Coventry, CV1 2WT.

Regulation 9 amends regulation 22 of the 2012 Regulations to clarify that the Secretary of State may refuse to pay a fee loan to a student who is in receipt of public funds for part or all of the fees for the current course.

An impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no impact on the private or voluntary sectors is foreseen. The Explanatory Memorandum is published with these Regulations on www.legislation.gov.uk.