

## UCAS technical briefing document

### Default value of commercial mailings options to be set to '0'

#### Summary

Currently, providers using odbc-link and xml-link can see the option selected by applicants when submitting an application, about receiving commercial mailings from UCAS.

Providers don't need this information to make an admissions decision, and the commercial mailing option refers to applicants receiving information from UCAS on behalf of others only, not directly from providers.

Providers currently see a Y/N flag indicating whether applicants have opted to receive commercial mailings. In future, the default value will be set to '0' – this will prevent providers misinterpreting the flag as agreement from an applicant to receive commercial mailings from them.

#### Changes

- The default value presented in odbc-link and xml-link will be set to zero '0'. The following tables shows the views and methods where the data can be found.
- No changes are being made to the field type or length to accommodate this c. Only the character displayed in it will change.



## odbc-link

| Table     | Name       | Type | Size | Page in existing odbc-link manual |
|-----------|------------|------|------|-----------------------------------|
| ivStarA   | EmailFlag  | Char | 1    | 107                               |
|           | NoMailFlag | Char | 1    | 107                               |
|           | SmsFlag    | Char | 1    | 108                               |
| ivStarAU  | EmailFlag  | Char | 1    | 145                               |
|           | NoMailFlag | Char | 1    | 146                               |
|           | SmsFlag    | Char | 1    | 146                               |
| ivgStarA  | EmailFlag  | Char | 1    | 191                               |
|           | NoMailFlag | Char | 1    | 191                               |
|           | SmsFlag    | Char | 1    | 191                               |
| ivgStarAU | EmailFlag  | Char | 1    | 220                               |
|           | NoMailFlag | Char | 1    | 220                               |
|           | SmsFlag    | Char | 1    | 221                               |
| ivcStarA  | EmailFlag  | Char | 1    | 250                               |
|           | NoMailFlag | Char | 1    | 250                               |
|           | SmsFlag    | Char | 1    | 250                               |
| ivcStarAU | EmailFlag  | Char | 1    | 279                               |
|           | NoMailFlag | Char | 1    | 279                               |
|           | SmsFlag    | Char | 1    | 279                               |

## xml-link

| XML document          | Element         | Type   | Size | Page in xml-link manual |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|------|-------------------------|
| UCASApplicantDetail   | emailOK         | String | 1    | 160                     |
| UCASApplicantDetail   | noMailing       | String | 1    | 164                     |
| UCASApplicantDetail   | smsOk           | String | 1    | 166                     |
| UKPASSApplicantDetail | emailOptIn      | String | 1    | 183                     |
| UKPASSApplicantDetail | receiveInfoSMS  | String | 1    | 185                     |
| UKPASSApplicantDetail | receiveInfoPost | String | 1    | 185                     |

The changes will also be detailed in the xml-link and odbc-link manuals.

## Release schedule

| Date          | Activity                                 | Resources                          |
|---------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7 April 2017  | Deploy changes to HEP2 test environment  | Draft manual available on ucas.com |
| 13 April 2017 | Deploy changes to HEP2 test environment  | Draft manual available on ucas.com |
| TBC           | Deploy changes in production environment | New live manual                    |