



25 February 2026

Dear Provider,

For the attention of all legal aid contract holders

Submit a Bulk Claim

We'd like to remind you that the deadline for submitting your February 2026 submission and historic claims into SaBC is 20th March 2026. To date we have received approximately 20% of expected historic submissions, thank you.

Whilst we have been able to support providers and answer most queries there are three issues we are working to resolve with the utmost urgency and would like to draw your attention to:

- Error message "*Provider is not contracted for the category of law associated with the Fee Code*" has been seen for a few isolated claims. An update is being developed to fix this issue.
- We've identified that extending the reporting window—allowing cases concluded up to the 20th of the following month to be included—means we must also update SaBC validation. This will ensure a Stage

Disbursement Claim can still be made when more than three months have passed since the case opened or the last claim.

- Additionally, because providers may submit contingency claims out of chronological order, we are updating the validation to correctly calculate the three-month period.

These changes are being worked on as a priority. Where individual providers have escalated instances of these issues to us, we will contact you once these are resolved.

Bulkload spreadsheet – updated v1.40 (Windows) or v1.01 (Mac) published on [Submit a Bulk Claim \(SaBC\) - GOV.UK](#).

Please ensure that you work from these versions of the spreadsheet. The [accompanying guides](#) for each will prevent common issues, such as understanding that the bulkload will generate the file which you then need to upload, rather than uploading the bulkload itself.

We have updated the spreadsheet to include the two new PROH1 and PROH2 Fee codes which are applicable for applications granted on/after 22 December 2025.

If you have used an older version of the spreadsheet to create your file and need to change the Fee Code as one of these would apply, then you can find the relevant cell in the export file and add a 1 or 2 to the Fee Code as needed e.g. FEE_CODE=PROH may become FEE_CODE=PROH1.

Feedback on SaBC

Thank you for your feedback on your experience with the new system so far. We are actively developing the requested functionality. The data-export feature will be available in early March, and the ability to view and amend claims before final submission is being designed in collaboration with a provider working group.

We've received very positive feedback from providers who reviewed the published guidance before using the system. The SaBC User Guide, bulkload spreadsheet guidance, and updated FAQs (which will continue to reflect common issues) can help you avoid errors and submit successfully first time.

We are also keen to understand more about your monthly submission process, how you typically submit, and how this change affects your operations. Please share your feedback using this link: [New 'Submit a Bulk Claim' service - Provider feedback form](#)