

# TAQA Qualifications at Level 3 and 4 for internal assessors, IQA staff (formerly IVs) and EQA staff (EVs)

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<b>T</b>	Training
<b>A</b>	Assessment
<b>Q</b>	Quality
<b>A</b>	Assurance

These qualifications were developed following a review of the National Occupational Standards (NOS), for Learning and Development in 2010, which involved consultation with several hundred individual practitioners, managers and organisations, as well as relevant awarding organisations, sector skills councils, Regulators and other key stakeholders across the UK. The relevant professional standards can be found on the Education and Training Foundation website. These qualifications are credit-rated and have a level.

Each qualification includes a unit that covers all the essential knowledge and understanding that assessors and quality assurance staff need, plus one or more units that describe competent practice. This approach offers more flexibility and a greater potential to meet the needs of aspiring assessors and quality assurance staff.

The qualifications are for people carrying out assessments and quality assurance in most learning environments including FE, Adult Continuing Learning, Employers and Third Sector. They are designed for anyone assessing and carrying out quality assurance in all occupational sectors, accredited learning, non-accredited learning (e.g. where performance is being assessed by the learner is not undertaking a qualification), qualifications on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

### Holders of older versions of assessor and verifier qualifications

No mandatory requirement to re-qualify, re-train or upskill if you hold prior qualifications. All predecessor qualifications to these are accepted and recognised as equivalent eg.

Assessor: A1, D32, D33, and QCF versions of qualifications below.

Internal Quality Assurance: V1, D34, and QCF versions of qualifications below.

External Quality Assurance: V2, D35, and QCF versions of the qualifications below<sup>1</sup>

### The TAQA Level 3 qualifications for assessors

There are 4 qualifications at Level 3:

- The Level 3 Award in Understanding the Principles and Practices of Assessment. A knowledge-only award for those who are starting their journey as an assessor, or those who need to know about assessment practice but are not currently practising.
  - Structure: 24 GLH, 3 credits 1 mandatory unit
  - Understanding the principles and practices of assessment (3 credits)

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<sup>1</sup> Best practice suggests that EQA staff should also hold an appropriate IQA qualification as listed above

- The Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment (ACWE). For practitioners who assess the demonstration of competence in a work environment using the following assessment methods: observation/examining work products/oral questioning and discussion/use of witnesses/learner statements/Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).
  - Structure: 54 GLH, 9 credits, 2 mandatory units.
  - Understanding the principles and practices of assessment (3 credits).
  - Assess occupational competence in the work environment (6 credits)
  
- The Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocationally Related Achievement (AVRA). For practitioners who assess knowledge and/or skills in vocationally related subject areas using the following assessment methods: assessments in simulated environments/skills tests/oral and written questions/assignments/projects/case studies/RPL.
  - Structure: 54 GLH, 9 credits, 2 mandatory units.
  - Understanding the principles and practices of assessment (3 credits).
  - Assess vocational skills, knowledge and understanding (6 credits).
  
- The Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement (CAVA). For practitioners who may use all of the above-listed assessment methods based upon sound assessment principles.
  - Structure: 84 GLH, 15 credits, 3 mandatory units
  - Understanding the principles and practices of assessment (3 credits)
  - Assess occupational competence in the work environment (6 credits)
  - Assess vocational skills, knowledge and understanding (6 credits)

#### The TAQA Level 4 qualifications for internal quality assurance (IQA) staff

There are 3 qualifications at Level 4:

- The Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice. A knowledge-only award for those starting their journey as internal quality assurance practitioners or those who need to know about internal quality assurance but are not carrying out quality assurance themselves.
  - Structure: 45 GLH, 6 credits, 1 mandatory unit
  - Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)
  
- The Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice. For practitioners who conduct internal quality assurance of the assessment process from within a centre/organisation, by sample planning, monitoring and advising on the practice of assessors.
  - Structure: 90 GLH, 12 credits, 2 mandatory units
  - Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)
  - Internally assure the quality of assessment (6 credits)

- The Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice. For practitioners who lead the internal quality assurance process within a centre/organisation and have responsibility for managing the quality of the assessment process, practice and the performance of assessors.
  - Structure: 115 GLH, 17 credits, 3 mandatory units
  - Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)
  - Internally assure the quality of assessment (6 credits)
  - Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility (5 credits)

#### The TAQA Level 4 qualifications for **External Quality Assurance (EQA)** staff

There are 3 qualifications at level 4

- Level 4 Award in Understanding the External Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice. A knowledge-only award for those starting their journey as external quality assurance practitioners or those who need to know about external quality assurance but are not carrying out quality assurance themselves.
  - Structure: 45 GLH, 6 credits, 1 mandatory unit
  - Understanding the principles and practices of externally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)
- Level 4 Award in Externally Assuring the Quality of Assessment Processes and Practice. For those who maintain the quality of assessment from outside an organisation/assessment centre, usually on behalf of an awarding organisation.
  - Structure: 75 GLH, 12 credits, 2 mandatory units
  - Understanding the principles and practices of externally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)
  - Externally assure the quality of assessment (6 credits)
- Level 4 Certificate in Leading the External Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice. For those who lead a team of people responsible for assuring the quality of assessment from outside a centre/organisation/assessment centre, usually on behalf of an awarding organisation.
  - Structure: 100 GLH, 17 credits, 3 mandatory units
  - Understanding the principles and practices of externally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)
  - Externally assure the quality of assessment (6 credits)
  - Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility (5 credits)

Full guidance document with details of the units can be found by clicking this link:

<https://www.et-foundation.co.uk/resources/teacher-education/assessor-and-quality-assurance-qualifications/>

## Teaching Qualifications

For many of the levels of CPCAB qualifications new tutors will need to hold, or be working towards, a recognised teaching qualification. We are aware that there is a degree of variety in the field of teaching qualifications and have therefore produced the following guidance to help centres understand this requirement.

Below are the recognised teaching qualifications for working in the Lifelong Learning Sector: Key changes were made to the 2001 FE Teaching regulations following OFSTED recommendations in 2004 that found weaknesses in teaching in the FE sector. Further changes were made in 2007 resulting in DTLLS, PTLLS and CTLLS. 2013 was the most recent change. In 2013 CTLLS, PTLLS & DTLLS were replaced by CET, AET and DET. The course content is the same but the regulatory bodies have changed the names. Both CTLLS and PTLLS are either Level 3 or Level 4 qualifications, whilst DTLLS is a Level 5 qualification.

There is no mandatory requirement to re-qualify, re-train or upskill if you hold prior qualifications. All predecessor qualifications to these are accepted and recognised as equivalent.

Level 3 Award in Education and Training (AET) 6502

Credits: 12

GLH: 48-61

Total Qualification Time: 120

This qualification supersedes Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) (6302)

Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training (CET) (6502)

Credits: 36

GLH: 140-204

Total Qualification Time: 360

This qualification supersedes the Certificate in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (CTLLS) (6304)

Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training (DET) (6502)

Credits: 120

GLH: 360-495

Total Qualification Time: 1200

This qualification supersedes the Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (DTLLS) (6305)

In addition to the Lifelong Learning qualifications, other teaching qualifications that are acceptable are the Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), the Professional Graduate Certificate in Post-Compulsory Education and Training (PCET), the Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE), and the Certificate in Education (Cert Ed).