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The Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners

An employer's guide





Introduction to the Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners

You need to know about this new qualification if you are an NHS employer providing one of the following screening services:

- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
- Diabetic Eye
- Newborn Hearing

From 1 April 2016, this qualification is a requirement for all new health screeners working in these three areas (NB: for Newborn Hearing screeners the qualification will roll out in 2017). This qualification is based on nationally agreed standards, which can be delivered locally for new staff embarking on their career.

This qualification is approved by Ofqual for use in England and is supported by Skills for Health.

Does the qualification form part of a recognised framework?

The qualification is derived from the agreed National Occupational Standards (NOS) for the sector. Achievement of this qualification will demonstrate competence in the NOS linked to the units for each pathway. Twelve of the 13 mandatory units in the qualification are also directly equivalent to other Level 3 health occupational competence diplomas. This ensures that learners who

have already undertaken these units as part of other health qualifications can use Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to transfer the knowledge and skills already gained onto the new Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners.

This qualification is part of the new Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in England.

What pathways are available?

This qualification consists of 13 mandatory units (37 credits) plus the pathway specific units.

The pathways currently available in this qualification are:

- Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm) **13 credits**
- Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners (Diabetic Eye – Screener) **22 credits**
- Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners (Diabetic Eye – Grader) **21 credits**
- Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners (Diabetic Eye – Screener-Grader) **30 credits**
- Level 3 Diploma for Health Screeners (Newborn Hearing) **19 credits**



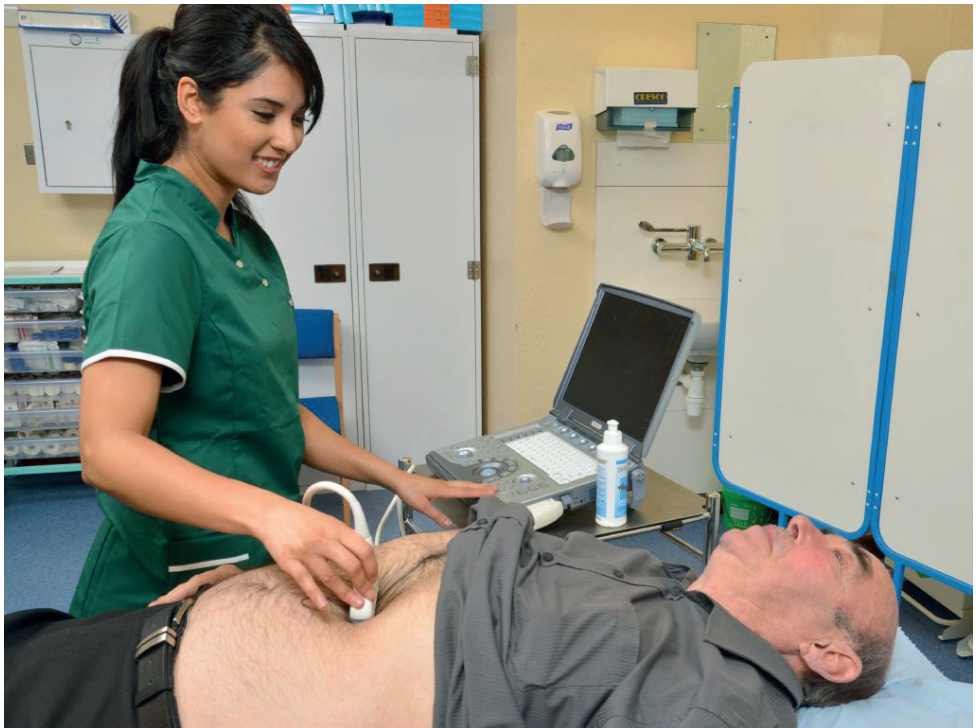
The final qualification gained is based on the learner undertaking the mandatory units plus those units for their relevant work role. Each unit has been assigned a level and notional credit value. The Diabetic Eye pathway contains units which can also be undertaken by optometrists as part of their Continuing Professional Development (CPD). The Newborn Hearing pathway includes units which can be undertaken as CPD by practitioners who are currently registered with a professional body.

Are there any entry requirements and how is the qualification assessed?

Learners should be aged 16 and over. The qualification is based on the demonstration of competence. The learner must be working directly within a service where they can carry out screening relevant to their role. The assessment will take place while they are in their normal working environment and context, and their portfolio of evidence will contain examples of their real work with patients.

The achievement of the qualification will relate directly to their competence in the workplace. For Newborn Hearing, competence will also be assessed using an Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

Where knowledge is assessed separately, this will be undertaken by various methods, including online tests and e-learning modules.





Are there any learning materials available?

All Assessment Centres and learners are automatically supplied with the qualifications documents. These can be accessed via the four Awarding Organisations with approval to offer the qualifications. In order to register as an Assessment Centre for the qualification, employers will need to contact one of the four Awarding Organisations:

- Future Awards and Qualifications <http://www.futurequals.com/>
- Innovate Awarding <https://www.innovateawarding.org/>
- NOCN <http://www.nocn.org.uk/>
- Pearson <https://uk.pearson.com/>

Employers do not have to become an Assessment Centre but local programmes will need to register with an Assessment Centre linked with one of the four Awarding Organisations below.

To register individual learners, you will need to contact an approved Assessment Centre.

To find a centre, contact an Awarding Organisation or the PHE Screening Helpdesk: http://cpd.screening.nhs.uk/email_us_form.php

Further information

Public Health England Screening Programmes

www.gov.uk/topic/population-screening-programmes

Public Health England CPD website

<http://cpd.screening.nhs.uk/healthscreeerqualification>

The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofqual-to-introduce-new-regulated-qualifications-framework>

Get in touch

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The logo for Skills for Health, featuring the text "Skills for Health" in a white, sans-serif font inside a white rounded square with a drop shadow.

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