



Pearson

Purpose Statement

Name of regulated qualification	
QAN: 601/9042/5	Title: Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Law (180 GLH)

Overview

The legal sector

There are many different career paths for those who wish to work within the legal sector, and an increasing need for employees in a range of roles. There is a drive to increase apprenticeship opportunities within law and growing opportunities to work both in the UK and internationally.

Who is this qualification for?

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Law** is intended to be an Applied General qualification for post-16 students wanting to continue their education through applied learning, and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the legal sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to 0.5 A level and aims to provide a basic introduction to study of the legal sector.

No prior study of the sector is needed, but students should normally have a range of achievement at level 2, in GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

What does the qualification cover?

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been involved, in order to confirm that the content is also appropriate for students interested in working in the legal sector.

The qualification provides the knowledge, understanding and skills that will prepare students for further study or training.

Everyone taking this qualification will study two mandatory units, covering the following content areas:

- dispute solving in civil law
- dispute solving in criminal law.

What could this qualification lead to?

Will the qualification support progression to further learning, if so, what to?

In addition to the specific legal sector content outlined above, the requirements of the qualification will mean that students develop some of the transferable and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by higher education and employers. For example, when studying the unit on dispute solving in civil law, students will develop legal skills in research, and will be able to use these research skills to investigate the way in which the law is developed and applied through precedent, which supports some of the skills students need to progress into higher education, employment, or training.

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements for many courses, if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning. This qualification combines with a large number of subjects and progression can be direct to an honours degree or to a Higher National Foundation Degree, or to a Higher Apprenticeship.

For example, learners can combine this qualification with A Level Business and A Level Economics to progress to study a Foundation Degree or HND in Business and Law, or combine with a BTEC National Extended Diploma and progress to study a BA (Hons) in Business Law.

Students should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at specific higher education providers.

Will the qualification lead to employment, if so, in which job role and at which level?

This qualification, when studied with other level 3 qualifications, is primarily designed to support progression to employment, following further study at university. It can also support progression to apprenticeship programmes, depending on the other qualifications being studied alongside; for example, A levels in Accounting, Sociology or Business. It is particularly useful for learners wanting to apply for employment with a view to progressing through an organisation's training programmes into legal roles in the future, as it will give them a basic introduction to the legal sector.

Why choose this size of qualification?

If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification, or it is available at different skills levels, why should the student choose this one?

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Law** is equivalent in size to 0.5 A level. It is for students interested in getting an introduction to the sector when studied within a full-time study programme alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, but not necessarily in law.

The suite also includes the following qualification.

The **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Law**, which is equivalent in size to one A level. It is for students interested in learning about the sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, potentially but not necessarily in law.

For more detail about the other qualifications listed here, and the different progression opportunities they particularly support, please refer to their statements of purpose.

This qualification is supported by the following organisations

Higher Education

Edge Hill University

Leeds Beckett University

University College Birmingham

University of Huddersfield

University of the West of England

Employer

Edward, Hands and Lewis Solicitors