

Level 3 BTEC Nationals: FAQs for international centres only

1. Why are BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) being extended in the majority of sectors until December 2017?

We regularly review all our qualifications to ensure they continue to meet the needs of learners in helping them progress to the next stage of their lives, whether into further education or employment. In 2014 we began a review of our BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010), in light of new UK government recommendations for vocational qualifications

As a result of our consultation with educators and stakeholders, we are pleased to announce an extension of existing BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) in the **majority of sectors to December 2017**, allowing student registrations until December 2017 with a last certification date of 31 December 2020. This means that you can continue to register learners onto these qualifications with confidence up until December 2017. BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) will continue to attract UCAS points and provide a clear progression pathway to Higher Education.

The only sectors that are not being extended are Beauty Therapy, Dental Technology, Pharmaceutical Science. Please see the table below for further details. All other sectors will have a review date of December 2017.

Sector	End date	Certification end date
Beauty Therapy	31 July 2016	31 July 2019
	Review date	
Dental Technology	31 August 2016	
Pharmaceutical Science	31 December 2016	

You may have noticed that a new range of BTEC National qualifications (2016) with external assessment have been added to our website. These qualifications are being introduced to UK centres for first teaching in September 2016 and are **currently not available to international centres**. We are reviewing whether they meet the needs of our international centres.

2. Why do a few BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) sectors have an earlier review or operational end date?

A few sectors within the current BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010), which have low take-up internationally, are being withdrawn or have an earlier review date.

Beauty therapy is being withdrawn as detailed below.

Sector	Operational end date	Certification end date
Beauty Therapy	31 July 2016	31 July 2019

The following sectors have shorter review dates and will only be available in the UK in the future.

Sector	Review date
Dental Technology	31 August 2016
Pharmaceutical Science	31 December 2016

All other BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) sectors will have a review date of 31 December 2017, with a certification date of 31 December 2020.

3. Why are the new BTEC Nationals with external assessment not available internationally?

The UK will be offering both the new BTEC National qualifications (2016) with external assessment and the current BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) in 2016. However, with the planned extension of the current BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) to December 2017, these qualifications are currently not available to international centres, because we are reviewing whether they meet the needs of our international centres.

We want to ensure that we offer the best possible international BTEC level 3 provision, which meets your needs and those of your learners. To do this effectively we are currently exploring the long-term international BTEC provision and are actively consulting centres on this. We would really value your input into the consultation process.

If you would like to participate in the consultation, please complete this [online form](#). We will then be in touch to involve you, to ask for your feedback on what you need from a BTEC level 3 suite, including features and support.

Existing BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010)

4. Will there be changes to the UCAS points awarded to the existing BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010)?

No, the existing BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010) will continue to confer a similar level of UCAS points. Please note, for Higher Education courses starting from September 2017, UCAS have introduced a new tariff points system, detailed [here](#).

5. Will there be any changes to the support available for the existing BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010)?

We will continue to support your delivery of the BTEC Level 3 Nationals (2010), with a comprehensive range of free resources and training available on our [website](#).