

Guidance for Centre approval to deliver the Pearson BTEC Nationals Sporting Excellence and Performance (2019) qualification

This qualification is intended to be taken by learners who are training with, or affiliated to, a recognised National Governing Body and/ or have contract links with professional sports bodies, where the programme of study involves performance in regular organised competitive sport, with the intended purpose of progression to employment as an elite performer, or in elite performance. Centres have access to appropriate sports facilities, suitable delivery staff and access to sports specific coaching staff to deliver a performance programme of this nature. Centres will need to apply for qualification approval via the approval process at Pearson. On receipt of this, a panel at Pearson will review the application and approval will be granted or not approved. The criteria need to be adhered to and maintained and are subject to be checked annually by Standards Verifiers. If this is not met, approval and certification may be withdrawn.

Centres who do not meet these requirements should consider a more appropriate qualification for their learners, such as the BTEC Nationals in Sports Coaching and Development, BTEC Nationals in Sport, Fitness and Personal Training, BTEC Nationals in Sport or BTEC Nationals in Sport and Outdoor Activities.

Further guidance for Centre approval to deliver the [Pearson BTEC Nationals Sporting Excellence and Performance \(2019\)](#) qualification, specifically for **elite football**.

These qualifications are intended to be taken by learners who are training or competing, at an elite level, in a sport with a recognised National Governing Body and/or have contract links with professional sports bodies, where the programme of study involves performance in regular organised competitive sport, with the intended purpose of progression to employment as an elite performer, or in elite performance.

Female Football:

Centres applying for qualification approval to deliver this to 'elite' female footballers must demonstrate that learners are performing at an elite level. It is expected that learners who are going to register onto this programme will already be registered at a Regional Talent Club (RTC). In the context of female football, it is expected that the learners will be working towards the Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DiSE) programme in affiliation with an RTC. Additionally, learners may be registered on the [SEP](#) Apprenticeship and deemed currently to be elite performers, in accordance with Pearson's qualification approval criteria.

Male Football:

Centres applying for approval to offer this qualification to 'elite' male footballers must be delivering the qualification alongside the Sporting Excellence Professional Apprenticeship (SEP). Pearson recognises this apprenticeship standard to be the elite pathway for male footballers. This applies to learners within football academy programmes or individual learners with intended career progression in football. Learners who are not registered on the [SEP](#) Apprenticeship would therefore not be deemed currently to be elite performers, in accordance with Pearson's qualification approval criteria.

Alternative Qualification:

The BTEC Sport Coaching & Development (2019) pathway offers a very similar qualification and wide scope for progression in the Sport industry. For learners not currently performing at an elite level, based upon Pearson's classification criteria, this would be the most appropriate qualification. Centres requiring support to transition delivery to the Coaching & Development pathway, or for any further guidance, should contact the [Pearson support portal](#).