

Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate for Optometric Clinical Assistant (QCF)**Qualification Number: 601/1839/8****What is the purpose of this qualification?**

The BTEC Level 3 Certificate for Optometric Clinical Assistant provides the underpinning knowledge and skills for learners who work or want to work as optometric clinical assistants.

What does this qualification cover?

This qualification is based on the National Occupational Standards for the optical industry as defined by Skills for Health in consultation with employers and professional bodies through the Optical Sector Steering Group. The qualification is accredited on the Qualifications and Credit Framework.

Learners will complete the following mandatory units:

- Anatomy, physiology and pathology of the visual system
- Use of spectacles
- Optometric function and low vision service
- Contact lens practice
- Supporting the provision of spectacle frames
- Roles and responsibilities in optical practice
- Procedures in contact lens practice

How is the qualification assessed?

Learners will compile a portfolio of evidence demonstrating how they are meeting the required standard.

Who could take this qualification?

This qualification is for all learners aged 16 and above who are capable of reaching the required standard. Learners do not need any prior qualifications, knowledge or experience before starting the qualification. They may be seeking work, or they may already be employed in an optical role.

What could this qualification lead to?

Learners could progress on to other optical industry qualifications such as the following:

- Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Diploma in Optical Retail Skills
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate for Ophthalmic Dispensing Assistant
- Pearson BTEC Level 4 Certificate in Optical Dispensing

In addition, learners could progress on to team leading or management qualifications.

Learners may wish to advance to more senior roles within the practice and may ultimately progress to becoming a Dispensing Optician, Contact Lens Optician, Optometrist or Practice/Store Manager.

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification is supported by the Association of British Dispensing Opticians which is the professional body for dispensing opticians in the United Kingdom.