

Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Workskills (QCF)

Qualification Number: 600/2394/6

Qualification Overview

The qualification is flexible and the content can adapt to the individual needs of the learner. There is no core and all of the units are optional.

The qualification is available to learners aged 14+, including adult learners. It is primarily designed for learners who are not currently in work. This includes two distinct groups: Firstly people who are out of work and are looking to enter the workplace or an apprenticeship and secondly those currently on other programmes, for example a study programme at school or college. There are no requirements of prior achievement for this qualification, it is open to everyone.

The primary outcome of the Pearson BTEC Certificate in Workskills is to **Break down barriers to engagement with work**

In terms of breaking down barriers to work the qualification works in two specific ways, firstly supporting learners to gain employment and then secondly supporting learners to succeed in the workplace. It is designed to adapt to the individual needs of different learners and the certificate-sized qualification is able to potentially develop both areas in one programme.

Gaining Employment – Often learners will lack confidence approaching the recruitment process. This will include requiring support to see the strengths and skills that they have that will help them to gain employment. Therefore a Workskills programme including self assessment, support with the job application and interview process will overcome this. There are two units included that help learners with interviews, which is often something that people find difficult.

Succeeding in the Workplace – When the learner starts their new job they need to have the generic and transferable skills to perform with confidence in the workplace. A programme that concentrates on positive attitudes at work, solving work-related problems, self-management skills, managing your health at work and money management will support the learner in preparation for the reality of being at work. Stable employment will also include future progression into different jobs. Therefore the learner can potentially develop leadership skills, numeracy and literacy and skills in customer relations to support this.

What the qualification leads to

The Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Workskills leads to learners being able to secure employment or an apprenticeship as generic skills have been developed and barriers to work broken down.

Why a learner would take this qualification

There are a range of different sized qualifications available at this level: Awards (3, 6 and 9 credits), a certificate, an extended certificate and a diploma. The range of sizes mean that the learner is able to access a qualification which meets their individual employability skills needs and gives the best possible chance of re-entering the workplace.

The certificate-sized qualification is appropriate for learners who need a wider range of employability skills to obtain and be successful at work than that offered by the awards. This will include learners who are long-term unemployed. These learners may be completing the certificate alongside vocationally specific qualifications or units.

The extended certificate and diploma-sized qualifications are also available for learners who require a very wide range of employability skills in a longer programme. Most learners' needs are met by a smaller qualification.

Who supports the qualification

The Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Workskills is an extremely popular qualification and there are a large number of centres who offer it to learners.

The following centres have indicated their support to the SFA to ensure that the qualification is funded:

Avanta Enterprise Limited
Express Direct Training Limited
Urban Futures London
Intraining