

Pearson BTEC Level 1 6-credit Award in Workskills (QCF)

Qualification Number: 601/0690/6

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 and undertaking short employability programmes. 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.

Primary Outcome

The primary outcome of the Pearson BTEC 6-credit Award in Workskills is to in a short programme provide targeted support to learners in relation to **breaking down barriers to engagement with work**

For the 6-credit award in Workskills the main purpose is to break down barriers to work. Often this will be the skills needed to gain employment. Often learners will lack confidence; will be unable to see the strengths and skills that they have that will help them to secure employment. Therefore a programme including self assessment, support with the job application and interview process will overcome this.

A different learner's barriers may be about keeping a job. 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.

If the Award in Workskills is taken alongside another programme it also has the potential to develop the skills needed to perform with confidence in the workplace. A programme focussed in this way would include units on developing skills for leadership, relationships with customers, contributing to meetings and numeracy for the workplace. Once again, the flexibility of the qualification allows the content to be matched to the needs of individuals.

What the qualification leads to

The Pearson BTEC Level 1 6-credit Award 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 6-credit Award qualification is suitable for short, targeted programmes that aim to get learners into work as quickly as possible. It provides the knowledge and skills that are needed for this purpose. The certificate-sized qualification on the other hand is appropriate for learners who need a wider range of employability skills to obtain and succeed at work.

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 6-credit Award in Workskills is widely supported 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:

Intraining Limited

Avanta

N-gaged

BT