

National Qualifications Framework - Edexcel Level 3 NVQ in Fire and Rescue Sector Control Operations

Automatic Approval Process and Frequently Asked Questions

Part One - AUTOMATIC APPROVAL PROCESS - KEY INFORMATION

What happens next?

The following qualification is being replaced.

NVQ title being replaced	Last Registration	Last Certification
Edexcel Level 3 NVQ in Q5000023 - Emergency Fire Services - Control Operations (100/2015/9)	31 Oct 2008	31 Oct 2011

The following is the replacement NVQ title:

Q5000393 - Edexcel Level 3 NVQ in Fire and Rescue Sector Control Operations (QAN: 500/5521/5)

If you meet the following criteria for the current NVQ, you are entitled to automatic approval for the replacement NVQ.

Criteria for Automatic Approval:

- Centres approved within the previous 6 months for the NVQs being replaced will receive Automatic Approval for the new NVQ (as they have recently been through the rigorous approval process).
- Centres approved over 6 months ago for the NVQs being replaced, will receive Automatic Approval for the new NVQ, if they fulfil both the following eligibility requirements:
 - having registered candidates on the replaced NVQ within the last two years
 - having received a sanction level 2 or lower reported on the e-QRF for the replaced NVQ within the last year.

How do I obtain a copy of my centre's approved qualification structure?

To obtain a copy of the qualification structure you will need to access your 'programme definition' through your Edexcel Online account and select the NVQ tab,

- Go to Qualifications on the left hand side
- Select Reports where you will be asked to select programme definitions.
- Select the programmes from the 'Currently Approved Award Codes' option and submit.

The programme definitions are sent to your Edexcel Online mailbox. You can access this by clicking on "mailbox" at the top of the Edexcel Online screen. Please ensure that copies of the programme definitions are distributed to all relevant personnel, as they contain important administrative and course delivery information.

If my centre does not meet the automatic approval criteria outlined on the previous page, what do I need to do to seek approval?

If your centre does not meet the criteria outlined above or you wish to apply for an NVO title where there was no previous provision, a member of the relevant Edexcel regional team can support and assist your centre in the completion of the approvals application process

Please contact your Regional Office to put you in contact with an appropriate member of the Edexcel regional team.

Contact details of your Edexcel Regional Office can be found in the Contact Section of the Edexcel Information Manual.

You will need to complete and return a NVO QA form to BTEC Approvals. If you have any queries relating to this process, please email approvals@edexcel.org.uk

The NVO QA form and guidance can be found on the Edexcel website - [NVO Qualification Approval \(NVO QA\)](#)

If my centre has been given automatic approval to offer the new NVOs, but does not wish to have approval to offer them, what do I need to do to withdraw approval?

If your centre does not wish to offer the new NVO for which your centre has been given automatic approval and would like approval to be withdrawn, please write to:

Quality Standards Team
One90 High Holborn
London
WC1V 7BH

Requests for further advice and queries about approval may be directed to:
approvals@edexcel.org.uk

Part Two - GENERAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will this new qualification access funding?

This new Edexcel NVQ qualification will be listed on the current DCSF Funding Lists (Section 96 and 97 as appropriate) and subsequent DCSF update circulars.

The replaced Edexcel NVQ title listed in part 1 above, which expired on 31 October 2008, will no longer attract public funding as of that date. Please note that candidates already registered with Edexcel on this NVQ title will be funded to complete their programme.

It is appreciated that centres in Wales and Northern Ireland operate under different funding arrangements; please contact your Edexcel Regional Office if you have particular queries (see below).

For Centres in Wales:

Cardiff Regional Office
Unit C
Fairway House
Links Business Park
St Mellons
Cardiff
CF3 OLT

For Centres in Northern Ireland:

Bristol Regional Office
Cribbs Business Centre
Hollywood Lane
Cribbs Causeway
Bristol
BS10 7TW

Tel: 0292 079 4865
Fax: 0292 036 2830

Tel: 0117 950 1908
Fax: 0117 950 1115

Where can we obtain copies of the DfES funding listings?

For funding information please see the LSC Learning Aims Database (<http://providers.lsc.gov.uk/lad/default.asp>).

Why is there a change in qualification coding?

OCA have changed the way in which they code NVQs accredited to the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). Instead of the previous system of allocating Q numbers for each NVQ they now allocate a Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN), which consists of an eight figure number. In addition, individual units are no longer allocated a U number, but instead start with a letter and then seven digits.

The new style of coding will run alongside the old, which remains valid in relation to existing NVQ Qualifications and NVQ units that have previously been allocated Q and U numbers.

Edexcel systems will continue to use Q numbers for NVQ approvals and registrations. For qualifications and units allocated QAN codes we will generate unique Q and U numbers, beginning with 'Q5' and 'U5' respectively, these Edexcel codes should be used when completing all Edexcel documentation.

The Edexcel generated codes will not appear on certificates; these will be linked to the NQF QAN codes, which will appear on all certification. All other forms from other bodies relating to NVQs (e.g. for funding) should be completed using the NQF QAN codes.

The QCA qualification accreditation codes needed to apply for funding are listed against the new titles on page 1 of this document.

When can we register candidates on the revised Edexcel NVQ programme?

You may register candidates from 1 December 2008 onwards, provided that you have either:

- Received an automatic approval letter
- Received a letter of approval from Edexcel following a full application using the NVQ QA Application Form.

Information about registration arrangements are given in the Edexcel Information Manual which is on the Edexcel website at [Edexcel Information Manual](#)

Can I advertise and market the new qualifications?

Yes, if you have received an automatic approval letter or if you have received your approval letter following submission of the NVQ QA Application Form. If you have applied via the NVQ QA but are still awaiting your formal Approval Letter, then any marketing must make it clear that you are awaiting approval from Edexcel. Candidates must be made aware of the exact, correct title of the qualification they are working towards.

What support materials will be available?

The following products will be available.

Code	Title	Media	When available
n/a	Edexcel Level 3 NVQ in Fire and Rescue Sector Control Operations - Sector Guidance for centres	Edexcel website	December 2008
n/a	Edexcel Level 3 NVQ in Fire and Rescue Sector Control Operations – Logbook for centres	Edexcel website	December 2008

Part Three - NVQ SPECIFIC FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ISSUES

Why have the National Occupational Standards (NOS) changed?

The Fire and Rescue Control Operations NOS were revised as part of an Incremental Change Project (2006-7). The changes to the NOS are relatively small, mainly changes to wording to improve readability and clarity with some minor content changes. There are two new units (CO3 Gather information to co-ordinate a fire and rescue response and CO4 Co-ordinate a fire and rescue response) created by splitting one old unit (CO3 Co-ordinate response to assist with resolution of event) into two. One unit (CO8 Maintain and use databases) has been removed.

Will there be mapping between the old and new qualifications?

Yes. There will be a mapping provided of the old to the new units and information on the main changes, in the Sector Guidance for Centres document.

Will candidates already registered for the existing NVQs be able to transfer registration?

Candidates will not be able to use as part of the structure of the new NVQs any units that they have achieved within the expired NVQs, although they may well be able to use the evidence they have acquired, through the usual APL route. The Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) publication code can be found in Section 5 of the Sector Guidance for Centres.

Are there any significant differences between the assessment of the expiring NVQs & their replacements?

No, there are no significant differences.