

# SPECIFICATION

**IAO Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of  
Assessment Processes and Practice  
Qualification number: 601/4413/0**



Innovate Awarding is an Ofqual regulated awarding organisation with an innovative and dynamic approach. We develop off-the-shelf, customised and fully bespoke qualifications across a growing number of sectors – all on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

Our portfolio is always growing and we currently have qualifications in the following sectors:

- Active Leisure
- Business Management (Administration)
- Business Management (Customer Service)
- Business Management (Sales)
- Business Management (Team Leading)
- Childcare
- Education and Training
- Health and Beauty
- Health and Social Care
- Hospitality and Catering
- IT
- Logistics
- Retail

We currently offer over 100 qualifications and we're continuously developing and diversifying our portfolio. Please visit our website regularly to keep up-to-date [www.innovateawarding.org](http://www.innovateawarding.org).

This document will be updated if there are any changes so it is important to make sure you are working from the most up-to-date version, which is available to download from our website.

This specification also provides details on administration, quality assurance policies and the requirements as well as responsibilities that are associated with the delivery of vocational qualifications.

Innovate Awarding is an Ofqual-regulated Awarding Organisation in England.

If you have any questions regarding qualifications in general, aspects of specific qualifications or our quality assurance policies and procedures, visit our website where a lot more information is available.

If you cannot find what you are looking for on our website, please call or email our customer support team:

Telephone: 0117 314 2800  
Email: [contactus@innovateawarding.org](mailto:contactus@innovateawarding.org)

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*“ We work with a wide variety of organisations such as employers, training providers, FE colleges and Sector Skills Councils and develop off-the-shelf, customised and bespoke qualifications. ”*

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## Qualification summary

**Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN)** 601/4413/0

**Qualification review date** 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

**Guided Learning Hours (GLH)** Minimum 90 hours

**TQT** 120 hours

**RQF level** 4

**Qualification credit value** 12 credits

**Minimum credits at/above level** 12 credits

**Assessment requirements** Portfolio of Evidence

This qualification is internally assessed and internally quality assured by Centre staff and externally quality assured by Innovate Awarding External Quality Assurance Consultants (EQACs).

**Aims and objectives of the qualification** The aim of the qualification is to enable learners to progress their careers within internal verification and moderation and to provide the knowledge necessary for learners who aspire to become moderators or verifiers.

**Entry guidance** There are no formal entry requirements for this qualification.

This qualification is aimed at individuals who maintain and improve the quality of assessment from within an organisation. It provides learners with an opportunity to demonstrate their competence in an internal quality assurance role.

**Progression opportunities** Learners who achieve this qualification could progress into employment as an internal verifier, or undertake further qualifications, such as:

- IAO Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice
- IAO Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice

**Funding** For details on eligibility for government funding please refer to the following websites:



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<http://www.education.gov.uk/section96/>  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/skills-funding-agency>

## **Innovate Awarding**

When you work with Innovate Awarding, you're working with an awarding organisation that sets itself apart – a dynamic company with a collaborative approach to doing business. We're consultative and innovative...everything that our customers say they want an awarding organisation to be.

We're easy to work with, committed and passionate about exceeding our customers' expectations. We're not tied down by bureaucracy and red tape and can think outside the box and respond quickly to our customers' needs.

We have a Performance Pledge that details guaranteed response times. Copies of these can be found on our website [www.innovateawarding.org](http://www.innovateawarding.org)

### **Feedback**

Your feedback is very important to us. We're always open to suggestions when it comes to enhancing and improving our services, products and systems. Email us at [contactus@innovateawarding.org](mailto:contactus@innovateawarding.org) or call us on 0117 314 2800.

### **Complaints**

If we do get things wrong, we'll make every effort to resolve your issues quickly and efficiently. If you'd like to raise a formal complaint then we recommend you read our Complaints Procedure which can be found on our website.

### **Fees**

Our fees structure is transparent and straightforward. Our fees are published on our website in a clear format with no hidden charges. Unlike other awarding organisations, we do not charge an annual centre fee. Visit our website to compare our fees.

### **Enquiries and appeals**

We recognise that sometimes decisions are made that a centre (or learner) may wish to appeal. We have an Enquiries and Appeals Policy and Process on our website that sets out guidelines on grounds for appeal and the process.

### **Data Protection**

Innovate Awarding takes the protection of data seriously; we have a data protection statement outlining how we and our centres, comply with the current legislation on data protection. This statement can be found on our website.

## **Equality and Diversity**

Innovate Awarding is committed to giving everyone who wants to gain one of our qualifications an equal opportunity of achieving it in line with current UK legislation (Equality Act 2010) and EU directives.

Centres are required, as conditions of approval, to use an equality and diversity policy that works together with ours and that they maintain an effective complaint and appeals process. We expect centres to tell learners how to find and use their own equality and diversity and appeals processes. For information, please visit our website.

## **Reasonable Adjustment and Special Consideration**

All learners must be treated fairly and equally and be given every opportunity to achieve our/the qualifications. A copy of our policy on Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations, and application form, can be found on our website.

## **Malpractice and Maladministration**

Innovate Awarding has a responsibility to do everything it can to prevent any malpractice or maladministration from occurring, and where it has already occurred, ensuring action is taken proportionate to the gravity and scope of the occurrence.

A copy of our policy and procedure on Malpractice and Maladministration is available on our website.

## **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)**

RPL recognises how the contribution of a learner's previous experience could contribute to a qualification or unit. Innovate Awarding have produced guidance on RPL and this can be found within our Information and Guidance for Centres on our website

**Please note the above is not a comprehensive guide to running IAO qualifications. Once approved centres must adhere to the Centre Agreement and Information and Guidance for Centres.**

## **The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)**

### **What is the RQF?**

The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) is an Ofqual regulated system of cataloguing qualifications. Qualifications on the RQF can be found by their size or level. Qualifications at a given level can differ depending on their content and purpose.

All of Innovate Awarding's qualifications are on the RQF.

### **Qualification Level**

The level reflects the challenge or difficulty of the qualification. There are eight levels of qualification from 1 to 8, supported by three "Entry" levels.

### **Qualification Size**

The size of a qualification reflects the estimated total amount of time it would take the average learner to study and be assessed. The size of a qualification is expressed in terms of Total Qualification Time (TQT). The time spent being taught or supervised, rather than studying alone, is the Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

Qualifications can sit at different levels, but require similar amounts of study and assessment. Similarly, qualifications at the same level can take different amounts of time to complete.

## **Assessment strategy**

There is no requirement for each unit to be assessed separately. Assessors are advised to adopt a holistic approach and, where possible, to use one activity as evidence for learning outcomes and assessment criteria for both units. For example, a professional discussion for the unit *Internally assure the quality of assessment* might also provide some evidence for the unit *Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment*. However, it is essential that evidence for the assessment criteria in each unit is also identified individually.

### **Unit 1- Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment**

The aim of this unit is to assess knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices that underpin the internal quality assurance of assessment.

All learning outcomes in this unit must be assessed using methods appropriate to the assessment of knowledge and understanding.

There must be valid, authentic and sufficient evidence for all the assessment criteria. However, one piece of evidence may be used to meet the requirements of more than one learning outcome or assessment criterion.

### **Unit 2- Internally assure the quality of assessment**

The aim of this unit is to assess the IQA trainee's performance in assuring the quality of assessment from within an organisation or assessment centre.

All learning outcomes in this unit must be assessed using methods appropriate to the IQA trainee's performance. These must include:

- observation of performance;
- examining products of work; and
- questioning

Direct evidence of this kind may be supplemented, where necessary, by professional discussion, reflective accounts or witness testimony.

Simulations are not allowed.

Remote observation is not acceptable for assessment of IQAs; in other words the assessor and the trainee IQA must be in the same location at the same time when observations are being carried out.

There must be valid, authentic and sufficient evidence for all the assessment criteria. Holistic assessment is encouraged and one piece of evidence may be used to meet the requirements of more than one assessment criterion.



Evidence must come from the IQA trainee's performance in the work environment.

There must be evidence of the IQA trainee monitoring a minimum of two assessors, each with a minimum of two trainees of their own, through components of a qualification.

## **Requirements for Assessors**

All those who assess these qualifications must:

- already hold the qualification they are assessing (or a recognised equivalent) and have successfully assessed learners for other Teaching, Learning or Assessment qualifications (if assessing quality assurance roles, they must have experience as a qualified quality assurance practitioner of carrying out internal or external quality assurance of qualifications for a minimum of two assessors);
- have up-to-date working knowledge and experience of best practice in assessment and quality assurance;
- hold one of the following qualifications or their recognised equivalent:
  - Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment; or
  - Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement; or
  - A1 Assess candidate performance using a range of methods; or
  - D32 Assess candidate performance and D33 Assess candidate using differing sources of evidence; and
- show current evidence of continuing professional development in assessment and quality assurance.

## **Requirements for Internal Quality Assurance**

All those who are involved with the quality assurance of these qualifications internally must:

- have up-to-date working knowledge and experience of best practice in assessment and quality assurance;
- hold one of the following assessor qualifications or their recognised equivalent:
  - Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment; or
  - Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement; or
  - A1 Assess candidate performance using a range of methods; or
  - D32 Assess candidate performance and D33 Assess candidate using differing sources of evidence;

- hold one of the following internal quality assurance qualifications or their recognised equivalent:
  - Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice; or
  - Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice; or
  - V1 Conduct internal quality assurance of the assessment process; or
  - D34 Internally verify the assessment process; and
- show current evidence of continuing professional development in assessment and quality assurance.

### **Requirements for External Quality Assurance**

All those who externally quality assure these qualifications must:

- have up-to-date working knowledge and experience of best practice in assessment and quality assurance;
- hold one of the following assessor qualifications or their recognised equivalent:
  - the Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment; or
  - the Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement, or
  - A1 Assess trainee performance using a range of methods; or
  - D32 Assess trainee performance and D33 Assess trainee using differing sources of evidence; and
- hold one of the following external quality assurance qualifications or their recognised equivalent:
- the Level 4 Award in Externally Assuring the Quality of Assessment Processes and Practice; or
- the Level 4 Certificate in Leading the External Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice; or
  - V2 Conduct external quality assurance of the assessment process; or
  - D35 Externally verify the assessment process; and
  - show current evidence of continuing professional development in assessment and quality assurance.

Best practice would suggest that external quality assurance staff should also hold an appropriate internal quality assurance qualification, either:

- the Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice; or
- the Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice; or

- V1 Conduct internal quality assurance of the assessment process; or
- D34 Internally verify the assessment process.

## **Qualification structure**

This qualification consists of two mandatory units. The learner must complete both units to gain 12 credits in order to achieve this qualification.

The total Guided Learning Hours (GLH) for this qualification is 90.

## **Unit structures**

All units are listed below

## Mandatory units

	Unit title	Level	Credit value	GLH
T/601/5320	Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment	4	6	45
A/601/5321	Internally assure the quality of assessment	4	6	45

<b>Title:</b>	<b>T/601/5320 Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment</b>
<b>Level:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Credit value:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>GLH:</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Learning outcome The learner will:</b>	<b>Assessment criteria The learner can:</b>
1. Understand the context and principles of internal quality assurance	1.1 Explain the functions of internal quality assurance in learning and development 1.2 Explain the key concepts and principles of the internal quality assurance of assessment 1.3 Explain the roles of practitioners involved in the internal and external quality assurance process 1.4 Explain the regulations and requirements for internal quality assurance in own area of practice
2. Understand how to plan the internal quality assurance of assessment	2.1 Evaluate the importance of planning and preparing internal quality assurance activities 2.2 Explain what an internal quality assurance plan should contain 2.3 Summarise the preparations that need to be made for internal quality assurance, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• information collection</li> <li>• communications</li> <li>• administrative arrangements</li> <li>• resources</li> </ul>
3. Understand techniques and criteria for monitoring the quality of assessment internally	3.1 Evaluate different techniques for sampling evidence of assessment, including use of technology 3.2 Explain the appropriate criteria to use for judging the quality of the assessment process
4. Understand how to internally maintain and improve the quality of assessment	4.1. Summarise the types of feedback, support and advice that assessors may need to maintain and improve the quality of assessment 4.2. Explain standardisation requirements in relation to assessment

	4.3. Explain relevant procedures regarding disputes about the quality of assessment
5. Understand how to manage information relevant to the internal quality assurance of assessment	5.1 Evaluate requirements for information management, data protection and confidentiality in relation to the internal quality assurance of assessment
6. Understand the legal and good practice requirements for the internal quality assurance of assessment	6.1 Evaluate legal issues, policies and procedures relevant to the internal quality assurance of assessment, including those for health, safety and welfare 6.2 Evaluate different ways in which technology can contribute to the internal quality assurance of assessment 6.3 Explain the value of reflective practice and continuing professional development in relation to internal quality assurance 6.4 Evaluate requirements for equality and diversity and, where appropriate, bilingualism, in relation to the internal quality assurance of assessment
<b>Additional information about this unit</b>	
N/A	
<b>Unit aim(s)</b>	The aim of this unit is to assess the knowledge and understanding a learning and development practitioner requires for the internal quality assurance of assessment.
<b>Assessment requirements specified by a sector or regulatory body (if appropriate)</b>	All learning outcomes in this unit must be assessed using methods appropriate to the assessment of knowledge and understanding.  In gathering evidence for these qualifications, an unqualified trainee IQA is not allowed to internally quality assure the work of another unqualified IQA.
<b>Details of the relationship of the unit and relevant national occupational standards</b>	This unit is underpinned by the Learning and Development National Occupational Standards, Standard 11: Internally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment.

<b>Title:</b>	<b>A/601/5321 Internally assure the quality of assessment</b>
<b>Level:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Credit value:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>GLH:</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Learning outcome The learner will:</b>	<b>Assessment criteria The learner can:</b>
1. Be able to plan the internal quality assurance of assessment	1.1 Plan monitoring activities according to the requirements of own role 1.2 Make arrangements for internal monitoring activities to assure quality
2. Be able to internally evaluate the quality of assessment	2.1 Carry out internal monitoring activities to quality requirements 2.2 Evaluate assessor expertise and competence in relation to the requirements of their role 2.3 Evaluate the planning and preparation of assessment processes 2.4 Determine whether assessment methods are safe, fair, valid and reliable 2.5 Determine whether assessment decisions are made using the specified criteria 2.6 Compare assessor decisions to ensure they are consistent
3. Be able to internally maintain and improve the quality of assessment	3.1 Provide assessors with feedback, advice and support, including professional development opportunities, which help them to maintain and improve the quality of assessment 3.2 Apply procedures to standardise assessment practices and outcomes
4. Be able to manage information relevant to the internal quality assurance of assessment	4.1. Apply procedures for recording, storing and reporting information relating to internal quality assurance 4.2. Follow procedures to maintain confidentiality of internal quality assurance information
5. Be able to maintain legal and good practice requirements when internally monitoring and maintaining the quality of assessment	5.1 Apply relevant policies, procedures and legislation in relation to internal quality assurance, including those for health, safety and welfare 5.2 Apply requirements for equality and diversity and, where appropriate, bilingualism, in relation to internal quality assurance



	<p>5.3 Critically reflect on own practice in internally assuring the quality of assessment</p> <p>5.4 Maintain the currency of own expertise and competence in internally assuring the quality of assessment</p>
<b>Additional information about this unit</b>	
N/A	
<b>Unit aim(s)</b>	<p>The aim of this unit is to assess the performance of a learning and development practitioner with responsibility for the internal quality assurance of assessment.</p> <p>'Practitioner' means anyone with a learning and development responsibility as part of their role.</p>
<b>Assessment requirements specified by a sector or regulatory body (if appropriate)</b>	<p>Evidence for all learning outcomes must come from performance in the work environment. All learning outcomes in this unit must be assessed using methods appropriate to the candidate IQA's performance.</p> <p>These must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation of performance</li> <li>• examining products of work</li> <li>• questioning</li> </ul> <p>Direct evidence of this kind may be supplemented, where necessary, by discussion, reflective accounts or witness testimony.</p> <p>Simulations are not allowed.</p> <p>In gathering evidence for these qualifications, an unqualified trainee IQA is not allowed to internally quality assure the work of another unqualified IQA.</p>
<b>Details of the relationship of the unit and relevant national occupational standards</b>	<p>This unit is underpinned by the Learning and Development</p> <p>National Occupational Standards, Standard 11: Internally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment.</p>