

Withdrawal of OCR Certificate and Diploma in Advice and Guidance – Frequently Asked Questions

Following a review of our qualification offer in the light of changes to market demand, we have made the difficult decision to withdraw these qualifications.

We will continue to support and assess the qualifications up to the last certification dates, identified below:

Entry Code	Qualification Title	Qualification Number	Last date for entries	Last certification date
10184	OCR Level 3 NVQ Certificate in Advice and Guidance	501/2154/6	30 September 2020	31 December 2021
10185	OCR Level 4 NVQ Diploma in Advice and Guidance	501/1901/1	30 September 2020	31 December 2021

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the last date I can enter a student?

The last date to enter a student for these qualifications is **30 September 2020**.

2. What is the last date I can certificate a student?

The last date that OCR will produce certificates is on **31 December 2021**.

Centres should complete all students' assessments and submit claims at least two months before the last certification date (October 2021).

3. Why is OCR withdrawing these qualifications?

Following market review and change, we have decided to withdraw the above qualifications.

4. Does this mean OCR is withdrawing all qualifications in this vocational area / sector?

No, we will still offer other career guidance and development qualifications including:

- <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-qualifications/vocational-qualifications-qcf-career-information-and-advice-level-4-diploma-04512/>

- <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-qualifications/vocational-qualifications-qcf-career-guidance-and-development-level-6-diploma-10215/>

We will not offer replacements for the Level 3 and Level 4 Advice and Guidance qualifications.

5. Are all Awarding Organisations withdrawing these qualifications or is it just OCR?

This is an OCR decision. The [Ofqual Register](#) may show other awarding organisations that still offer these.

For up to date information about qualifications offered in Wales, please visit [QiW](#).

For up to date information about qualifications offered in Northern Ireland, please visit [NIEFQAN](#).

6. What if a student completes their portfolio, but we haven't made a qualification entry for that student and it is after the final qualification entry date?

Student must be entered via OCR Interchange before the last entry date. If the last entry date has passed please [contact us](#).

7. What will happen if a student has a unit withdrawn and wants to claim the unit at a later date?

If they were entered before the last entry date, and the last certification date has not passed, units can still be claimed. You must claim before the last certification date.

8. I have Direct Claims Status (DCS) – how does this affect the last certification / assessment dates?

Direct Claims Status (DCS) is removed three months prior to last certification date or at the final EQA visit (whichever is earlier) as all student portfolios will still be subject to the full quality assurance process.

9. What do we need to consider as the last certification date approaches?

You should plan to complete all assessments at least two months before 31 December 2021. Please make sure your students have completed their portfolios of work, which must meet all the assessment criteria.

Externally Verified qualifications

To make sure you're prepared you may like to consider these key points:

- Remember to make your certification claims at least three weeks before the last certification date. As part of the quality assurance process, ensure all your claims are part of a sample seen by our external quality assurer (EQA).

- Ensure all your EQA visits take place at least two weeks before the last certification date to allow certificates to be processed.
- If you have any issues arranging visits, or contacting your EQA directly, please contact our allocation team: opsalloc@ocr.org.uk.

10. Who do I contact for more information about alternative OCR qualifications?

Contact our Customer Support Centre on **02476 851509** or email vocational.qualifications@ocr.org.uk.