

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

OCR Awards in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector
OCR Certificates in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector
OCR Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector

Centres that currently run Cert Ed, A1, V1, how will it affect them and will they need to up-skill/upgrade? 2

I am already teaching publicly funded courses – do I need to do the new qualification? 2

Which nations are affected by the new Teacher reforms? 2

Why are there two levels of PTLLS? 2

What is happening to the Learning & Development awards? 3

Who confers ATLS and QTLS status? 3

How long does a candidate have to complete the PTLLS Award? 3

How long does a candidate have to complete the CTLLS or DTLLS? 3

While in “pilot” if centres interpret the information in a particular way because of ambiguities in the handbooks (for example, conflicting information) will the candidates still be accredited with the award , based upon the centre’s interpretation? 4

The centre has had no EV visits for this award this year 4

The Centre personnel proposed that levels 3 and 4 inputs to be one joint group and that assessments should be differentiated such that “xxx” will be achieved by all candidates and “yyy” could be achieved at level 4..... 4

A checklist of evidence requirements in the handbooks would be good for both tutors and candidates to be able to see both progress and achievement..... 4

The statement about observation requirements for the PTLLS award is unclear, both the length and number of observations required..... 4

Will there be a V1 requirement for IVs on the PTLLS and, if so, what happens when current A/V awards are withdrawn in 2008? 5

After gaining approval and when we register candidates for Lifelong Learning, do we get a DFES number? 5

Will the PTLLS L3 provide APL into PTLLS L4? 5

In relation to CTLLS & Diploma, will registration be for the whole award or for units within it? 5

Question	Centres that currently run Cert Ed, A1, V1, how will it affect them and will they need to up-skill/upgrade?	Who is affected?
Answer	<p>If the centre staff are already qualified, then they will only need to consider ongoing CPD and will not have to do the PTLLS, CTLLS or DTLLS (Unless they either want to update their existing qualifications or use the units towards their CPD). If any members of staff (or candidates) are new to teaching from September 2007 and teach LSC-funded qualifications, they will need to do as a minimum the PTLLS Award, followed by the CTLLS and DTLLS, depending on their job role. This applies to the current Cert Ed only though.</p> <p>As regards the A1 and V1, at the moment there is no further information from the Sector Skills Councils concerned. At some point in the future, there will probably be a merging of the Assessor qualifications into the Lifelong Learning qualifications, but there is no further information on this beyond a date of at least January 2009 before any changes are released for consultation.</p>	
Question	I am already teaching publicly funded courses – do I need to do the new qualification?	Who is affected?
Answer	<p>If you already hold a teaching qualification that is mapped on the tariff of legacy qualifications (TLQ) you do not need to complete one of the new qualifications. However you will be expected to maintain CPD activities with the aim of ultimately gaining QTLS status. If you do not currently hold a teaching qualification, you will need to enrol on one of the new lifelong learning quals. You then have 5 years to complete.</p>	
Question	Which nations are affected by the new Teacher reforms?	Who is affected?
Answer	<p>As of September 2007, the reforms will only initially impact on England. However the other three nations are currently reviewing the Professional Standards with a view to adopting them. It is anticipated that Wales will have contextualised standards soon.</p>	
Question	Why are there two levels of PTLLS?	Who is affected?
Answer	<p>It was recognised that in order to allow access to all new teachers to the sector, different entry points needed to be created. From September 2007, centres are expected to complete rigorous initial assessment to ensure that a learner begins their journey in teaching at the right level. Regardless of the level of PTLLS attained, there are pathways through to achieving the CTLLS and Diploma.</p>	

Question	What is happening to the Learning & Development awards?	Who is affected?
Answer	From March 2008, LLUK will be developing new standards through consultation with the sector. They anticipate that from March 2009, new standards for Learning and Development will be available within seven distinct strands. LLUK will be extending the exit date for these qualifications, to ensure that centres have time to adapt to the changes.	
Question	Is QTLS the same as QTS?	Who is affected?
	All registered teachers will have to work towards a code of professional practice, but the title of this status will depend on the sector they work in. Currently, there is no transferability of status – this will be addressed at a later date by the GTC and LLUK, to respond to Specialised Diploma issues.	
Question	Who confers ATLS and QTLS status?	Who is affected?
Answer	The Institute for Learning has been tasked with managing the status accreditation process. A new teacher will need to have registered with the IfL to work towards the new professional status.	
Question	What do colleagues do to cover their teaching of pre-16 students?	Who is affected?
	QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) teachers will have to gain QTLS (Qualified, Teacher, Learning and Skills) status within 2 years to work in Post-16 Education. QTLS teachers will need to gain QTS to work in schools (through an assessment or portfolio route) Teachers who are members of the GTC (General Teaching Council) will not need to register with the Institute of Learning if they have no need to gain QTLS.	
Question	How long does a candidate have to complete the PTLLS Award?	Delivery
Answer	A candidate has one year from registration to complete.	
Question	How long does a candidate have to complete the CTLLS or DTLLS?	Delivery
Answer	A candidate has five years from registration to complete.	

Question	While in “pilot” if centres interpret the information in a particular way because of ambiguities in the handbooks (for example, conflicting information) will the candidates still be accredited with the award, based upon the centre’s interpretation?	Delivery
Answer	As long as the interpretation covers the overarching standards through the evidence, then this is fine. In theory, the advisory visit is in place to help with this anyway, so that you are guided towards the best type of evidence.	
Question	The centre has had no EV visits for this award this year	Delivery
Answer	Centre Visits and EV allocations are triggered by candidate entries, and so OCR will not allocate an EV without candidates showing on systems.	
Question	The Centre personnel proposed that levels 3 and 4 inputs to be one joint group and that assessments should be differentiated such that “xxx” will be achieved by all candidates and “yyy” could be achieved at level 4.	Delivery
Answer	OCR have developed a new ‘Cluster registration’ process which will be live for all PTLLS and CTLLS registrations. This will mean that a candidate can register on both levels at the same time at no extra cost to the centre – once work is completed, the centre enters the candidate for only one of the levels.	
Question	A checklist of evidence requirements in the handbooks would be good for both tutors and candidates to be able to see both progress and achievement.	Delivery
Answer	The evidence checklist will be available as a free resource from September 2008	
Question	The statement about observation requirements for the PTLLS award is unclear, both the length and number of observations required.	Delivery
Answer	Candidates should be involved in at least one hour of microteaching. Each candidate must deliver at least one 15 minute microteaching session which should be observed and assessed by a centre assessor. For the additional 45 minutes, candidates can either deliver additional microteaching sessions or observe the microteaching sessions of other candidates. Observed and assessed practice can be within an appropriate teaching practice location.	

Question	Will there be a V1 requirement for IVs on the PTLLS and, if so, what happens when current A/V awards are withdrawn in 2008?	Delivery Who is affected?
Answer	There is still a requirement generally to have assessors and IVs qualified to the relevant standards. As this qualification is not an NVQ, it sits outside the NVQ Code of Practice and so in theory does not need assessors to be qualified to A1 or V1. However, in the absence of any other code for this qualification type at the moment, we have adopted the NVQ Code of Practice to ensure stability and quality of the award. If a centre does not have suitably qualified assessors, it would be therefore queried during the EV visit. If and when the A/V awards are withdrawn, it is more likely to be towards the middle of 2009 – these will most likely be replaced by similar units that sit under the umbrella of Lifelong Learning Teaching. It is presumed that a legacy tariff will be produced to identify relevant qualifications that map across to the new one's, and so there will be a version of the assessor awards still required.	
Question	After gaining approval and when we register candidates for Lifelong Learning, do we get a DFES number?	Registration
Answer	It is DfES that issue these and not Awarding Bodies (the DfES number is a way for the DfES to track teachers who might or might not have Qualified Teacher Status).	
Question	Will the PTLLS L3 provide APL into PTLLS L4?	Registration
Answer	While the assessment criteria for level 3 PTLLS is very similar to the level 4 PTLLS, it does not allow APL to a higher level. However, it is possible to combine level 3 and level 4 units to complete the CTLLS and DTLLS qualifications.	
Question	In relation to CTLLS & Diploma, will registration be for the whole award or for units within it?	Registration
Answer	Registration for the CTLLS and DTLLS will be either for the full award or for individual units, with centres or candidates choosing suitable optional units within the full award.	
Question	Are there other optional units available for CTLLS and DTLLS?	Registration
Answer	As more units are developed and accredited, they will be available online via the OCR website. If there is a unit not currently offered that you would like to see developed, please contact OCR.	

Question	Is there student support in ITT with awarding bodies for DTLLS?	
Answer	The government has approved the designation of DTLLS courses offered through Awarding Bodies for student support requests. This will enable students undertaking Awarding Body courses to apply for the package of Student Support in the same way as those studying through an HE institution. It is important to stress that individual applicants will of course still need to meet the wider eligibility requirements for the Student Support scheme.	
Question	How does a teacher gain ATLS or QTLS status?	Registration Who is affected?
Answer	Once a teacher has completed their relevant qualification, they then have to complete a period of professional formation before gaining ATLS or QTLS status. This period of time is negotiable, with the Institute of Learning managing the guidelines for what constitutes formation. It is expected that line managers will identify when a suitable period of formation has lapsed, based on the IfL guidelines. Existing teachers can register for free with the IfL – contact the IfL for more information.	
Question	Do I have to register with the IfL on the 1st September 2007 in order to work towards ATLS or QTLS status.	Registration Who is affected?
Answer	No, you have a window of six months in which to register, starting from 1 st September 2007.	
Question	Why the new reforms?	ITT changes
Answer	Weaknesses in Initial Teacher Training for the sector were identified by Ofsted in November 2003. This led to proposals for a step change in the quality of Teacher Training through new Professional Standards.	
Question	What is meant by the term 'Teacher'?	ITT changes
Answer	A teacher within the emerging framework for the Initial Teacher Training reforms can mean that anyone who is a Teacher, Tutor, Trainer, Facilitator, Instructor, Lecturer, Practitioner or Preceptor.	
Question	What is the Qualifications Credit Framework (QCF)?	ITT changes
Answer	The QCF is a new system of organising all qualifications within one common framework. Each qualification or unit of a qualification will have credit value. This means that learners can carry credit with them for the whole of their learning life, and can use it to 'build' qualifications over a period of time.	
Question	What is the Learner Achievement Record (LAR)?	ITT changes
Answer	Take from QCA web	
Question	Are the new teacher roles regulated?	ITT changes
Answer	Yes, both the Associate and full teacher roles will be regulated.	

Question	How are the new ITT requirements enforced?	ITT changes
Answer	The LSC have added a clause to all new funding contracts, that specifies funding given based on staff being appropriately qualified (either through the legacy tariff or via the new qualifications).	
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Question	What is the legacy tariff?	ITT changes
Answer	The legacy tariff is a searchable online resource developed by SVUK, that identifies existing qualifications and how they map to the new professional standards. The tariff can be used to identify how an existing qualification 'fits' to the new qualifications, to allow centres to ensure that they meet the legislative requirements of the sector.	
Question	What is the difference between an Associate Teacher and a Full Teacher?	ITT changes Who is affected?
Answer	<p>Both roles are defined by the role of the teacher, not by the time in role.</p> <p><i>"associate teaching role' means a teaching role that carries significantly less than the full range of teaching responsibilities ordinarily carried out in a full teaching role (whether on a full-time, part-time, fractional, fixed term, temporary or agency basis) and does not require the teacher to demonstrate an extensive range of knowledge, understanding and application of curriculum, development, curriculum innovation or curriculum delivery strategies"</i></p> <p><i>"full teaching role' means a teaching role that carries the full range of teaching responsibilities ordinarily carried out in a full teaching role (whether on a full-time, part-time, fractional, fixed term, temporary or agency basis) and requires the teacher to demonstrate an extensive range of knowledge, understanding and application of curriculum, development, curriculum innovation or curriculum delivery strategies"</i></p>	