



Health & Social Care – NVQ Level 3

Course Code: NHSC03

Awarding Body: TBC

Duration: 06-12 Months

Introduction

An estimated three million people are employed in the health and social care sectors in the UK. Driven by the government requirements across the UK to modernise and raise standards in these sectors, there is an increasing need to recruit, retain and develop the skills of this workforce.

The level 3 qualification is designed for workers delivering care and support, often without direct supervision or working on their own - perhaps in an individual's own home. Workers may have some supervisory or development responsibility for other care workers, or they might be involved in specialist tasks with a degree of responsibility or independence.

Course Aims

The NVQ in Health and Social Care at level 3 is aimed at individuals who often work without direct supervision or on their own, perhaps in a user's own home.

The qualification is about the delivery of health and social care to clients. This includes direct care, where the focus is hands-on care and on the development and maintenance of the client's independence. This NVQ is designed for those people who deliver physical, emotional or enabling care to clients, whether you work in health or social care, in the public, private or voluntary sectors. It is designed to be applicable wherever care is delivered including hospitals, the client's own home, clinic, residential homes, nursing homes, day centres and group homes.

Course Market

This NVQ is for those working in a Health or Social Care setting.

It is suitable for:

- ❖ full or part time workers, paid and voluntary, permanent or temporary as well as day or night workers, supporting adults of any age, in any setting.
- ❖ individuals working with either older people or children and young people in essential care environments, day care settings or palliative care.
- ❖ people who work with individuals to support and assist them with their physical or emotional care, daily living needs or maintaining their independence.
- ❖ individuals who often work without direct supervision or on their own, perhaps in a user's own home.
- ❖ senior care workers, health care workers, home care organisers and community support workers. Units are also available for drugs and mental health workers.
- ❖ for those working with people with learning disabilities or challenging behaviour, as well as those in more supervisory positions with greater autonomy and authority.

Course Structure

The Level 3 qualification contains Eight units. All candidates must undertake the 4 core units (one of which is contextualised to the Adults Pathway) plus 4 optional units from a choice of 105 drawn from adults or children and young people or generic options. The extensive range of options ensures coverage of a wide range of work roles and specialisms across health and social care.

The additional units are for Continuing Professional Development and do not form part of the overall qualification structure.

Core Units:

HSC31	Promote effective communication for and about individuals
HSC32	Promote, monitor and maintain health, safety and security in the working environment
HSC33	Reflect on and develop your practice
HSC35	Promote choice, wellbeing and the protection of all individuals

Please check the List of Optional and Additional Units for NVQ Level-3 in Health & Social Care

Duration

As the qualification consists of work based assessment, the duration would vary between 6 to 12 months depending on the outcome of the continuous assessment.

Assessment

The qualification is a work based award and candidates' skills and knowledge are assessed in the workplace whilst they are working directly with individuals and colleagues. They must be working in a real health or social care setting on a full or part time basis and in paid or voluntary work. If candidates require any additional training prior to assessment this can be based in or out of the workplace or by distance or elearning.

Performance evidence requirements: Evidence of candidate performance will usually be derived from assessor observation or testimony from an expert witness of the candidate carrying out real work activities in the workplace. In order to complete the qualification, candidates must provide evidence of experience from caring for more than one individual, except in circumstances where a carer is working for only one individual for the total period of their assessment.

Knowledge evidence requirements: Candidates must be able to apply the specified knowledge and understanding to their work practice and therefore, most usually, knowledge and understanding will be apparent in candidates' performance evidence.

Simulation: Simulation is restricted and is limited to just one element within one unit.

Entry Requirements

There are no formal entry requirements for candidates undertaking this NVQ, however candidates must have the potential and opportunity to gain evidence for the qualification in the work place.

This NVQ is not approved for the use of those who are under 16 years of age. There may also be age restrictions placed on individuals when undertaking certain work activities within Health and Social Care. These too should be clarified with the appropriate regulator where there is any uncertainty about such restrictions.

Exemptions

Some candidates may have completed few units as part of an NVQ, which can be transferred directly into this qualification by presenting the original certificate to the centre. This is all that is required so long as the unit previously achieved is identical to the one in the qualification and that authenticity has been established.

Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL)

Some candidates for this qualification may have undertaken training in the past and will be experienced in Health and Social Care. Therefore opportunity is provided for candidates' prior experience and learning to be assessed and accredited. This will form part of the candidates' initial assessment.

Progression

The NVQ will enable progression within and between levels and across both sectors.

Laterally it will allow candidates who complete the requirements for a full NVQ to take up Continuing Professional Development opportunities through the optional and additional suites of units. Vertically they will allow movement up to another level across both sectors.

The Health and Social Care units will support progression in employment in the following specialist areas:

- ❖ Management – residential adults, children and young people and domiciliary work
- ❖ Drugs and Alcohol work
- ❖ Mental Health work
- ❖ Youth Justice work
- ❖ Rehabilitation work (especially for people with sensory impairments)
- ❖ Some generic areas of Health
- ❖ Social Work.