



## Health & Social Care – NVQ Level 4

**Course Code:** NHSC04

**Awarding Body:** TBC

**Duration:** 12-18 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 4 qualification is designed to be relevant to wide range of senior practice and supervisory or management roles within health and social care. They cover managerial duties in addition to the assessment of individual needs, and the planning and review of care programmes. In bringing together a mix of advanced practitioner work and first line management responsibilities there is a clear link to both the Registered Managers (Adults) and also the Managers in Residential Child Care Level 4 qualifications. New units have been included to strengthen and reflect the current demands on managers such as procurement and tendering, risk management, effective governance and domiciliary care management

At this level the worker has management or supervisory responsibility for other staff or a high level of independence in developing individual responses to the services users' needs.

### Course Aims

The NVQ in Health and Social Care at level 4 is aimed at people in supervisory or management roles. The **adults** pathway is appropriate for senior care workers, healthcare workers, home care organizers and community support workers.

The Level 4 NVQ in Health and Social Care is about the development of services, organisational policy, joint working with other agencies, management skills and the improvement of the Learner's own knowledge, skills and practice.

This NVQ is for people who are involved in a wide range of supervisory or management roles within the health and social service sector. It is designed for individuals who are involved in team development and the effective use of people and financial resources including the management of team and individual performance in the work setting.

### 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 4 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 46. The Optional Units are drawn from adult or children and young people or generic options.

The wide range of options includes units that are from the registered managers (adults) and residential managers in child care qualifications. In addition to further management skills it also includes units specific to disclosure of abuse, mental health and drug and alcohol misuse, working with volunteers, and representing the agency.

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

#### Core Units:

HSC41	Use and develop methods and systems to communicate, record and report
HSC42	Contribute to the development and maintenance of healthy and safe practices in the working environment
HSC43	Take responsibility for the continuing professional development of self and others
HSC45	Develop practices which promote choice, well being and the protection of all individuals

**Please check the List of Optional and Additional Units for NVQ Level-4 in Health & Social Care**

## Duration

As the qualification consists of work based assessment, the duration would vary between 12 to 18 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. Professional discussion, will be conducted to elicit underpinning knowledge, explain how to deal with contingencies and clarify or expand on evidence presented portfolios.

**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.