

Assessor and Verifier Competence (September 2013)

SQA Accreditation is issuing this communication to provide clarification and guidance relating to the qualification requirements for the assessment and verification of Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs). In addition the following clarification and guidance may also be used for assessing other types of qualifications that may be supported by assessment strategies and/or assessment principles.

Learning and Development (L & D) SVQs and Units, which are based on the current National Occupational Standards (NOS), were approved by ACG in October 2010.

Assessors and verifiers who currently hold D or A and V Units are still considered to be qualified assessors and internal verifiers/external verifiers and are not required to undertake the new Units. However, they must be working to the current NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development. **Any new assessors and verifiers, who do not currently hold any of these qualifications, should undertake the qualifications based on the current Learning and Development (L & D) NOS.**

The relationship between the current L & D Units and previous Assessor and Verifier qualifications can be found on the attached tables.

Please note this is not an exhaustive list and assessment and verification of SVQs must always be in line with the current L & D NOS and in accordance with the specific assessment strategies dependant on the requirements of the sector.

Awarding Bodies must recognise that where an assessor or verifier has achieved a relevant qualification then there is no stipulation for them to repeat with the most current version.

If you require any clarification please contact your designated Accreditation Manager.

Please Note: It is recognised that some awarding bodies use different terms for Verifiers, such as Internal Quality Assurers and External Quality Assurers. These and other job titles for the same role are acknowledged.

Table 1: Assessors

Title	Abbreviation	Replaced by	Comments	Additional Comments
Assess workplace competence using direct methods	L & D 9D	Current Unit	This is the current accredited L & D Unit. QCF qualifications based on the current L & D NOS are equally acceptable.	<p style="text-align: center;">NB. In all situations it is imperative that Assessors meet the occupational competency requirements specified in the specific Assessment Strategy/Principles that support individual qualifications</p>
Assess workplace competences using direct and indirect methods	L & D 9DI	Current Unit	This is the current accredited L & D Unit. QCF qualifications based on the current L & D NOS are equally acceptable.	
Assess candidates using a range of methods	A1	L & D 9DI	The L & D Units replaced these in May 2011.	
Assess candidates' performance through observation	A2	L & D 9D	<p>Assessors who hold these Units (A1/A2) are still considered to be qualified assessors and are not required to undertake the new Units. However, they must be working to the current L & D NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development.</p> <p>Any new assessors should undertake the Learning and Development Units which are based on most recent National Occupational Standards (NOS).</p>	
Assess candidate performance	D32	A2	The A Units replaced these in 2008.	
Assess candidates using differing sources of evidence	D33	A1	<p>Assessors who hold these Units (D32/D33) are still considered to be qualified assessors and are not required to undertake the new Units. However, they must be working to the current L & D NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development.</p> <p>Any new assessors should undertake the Learning and Development Units which are based on most recent National Occupational Standards (NOS).</p>	
Teacher Qualification (Further Education)	TQFE		<p>This was an accepted exemption for the D Units.</p> <p>Assessors who hold this qualification (TQFE) are still considered to be qualified assessors and are not required to undertake the new Units. However, they must be working to the current L & D NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development.</p>	

Table 2: Internal Verifiers

Title	Abbreviation	Replaced by	Comments	Additional Comments
Internal Quality Assurance	L & D 11	Current Unit	This is the current accredited L & D Unit. QCF qualifications based on the current L & D NOS are equally acceptable.	<p style="text-align: center;">NB. In all situations it is imperative that Verifiers meet the occupational competency requirements specified in the specific Assessment Strategy/Principles that support individual qualifications</p>
Conduct internal quality assurance of the assessment process	V1	L & D 11	<p>The L & D Units replaced this in May 2011</p> <p>Internal Verifiers who hold this Unit (V1) are still considered to be qualified verifiers and are not required to undertake the new Unit. However, they must be working to the current L & D NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development.</p> <p>Any new internal verifiers should undertake the Learning and Development Units which are based on most recent National Occupational Standards (NOS).</p>	
Internally verify the assessment process	D34	V 1	<p>The V Unit superseded this qualification in 2008.</p> <p>Internal Verifiers who hold this Unit (D34) are still considered to be qualified verifiers and are not required to undertake the new Unit. However, they must be working to the current L & D NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development.</p> <p>Any new internal verifiers should undertake the Learning and Development Units which are based on most recent National Occupational Standards (NOS).</p>	

Table 3: External Verifiers

Title	Abbreviation	Replaced by	Comments	Additional Comments
External Quality Assurance	L & D 12	Current Unit	This is the current accredited L & D Unit. QCF qualifications based on the current L & D NOS are equally acceptable.	NB. In all situations it is imperative that Verifiers meet the occupational competency requirements specified in the specific Assessment Strategy/Principles that support individual qualifications
Conduct external quality assurance of the assessment process	V2	L & D 12	<p>The L & D Units replaced this in May 2011</p> <p>External Verifiers who hold this Unit (V2) are still considered to be qualified verifiers and are not required to undertake the new Unit. However, they must be working to the current L & D NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development.</p> <p>Any new external verifiers should undertake the Learning and Development Units which are based on most recent National Occupational Standards (NOS).</p>	
Externally verify the assessment process	D35	V2	<p>The V Unit superseded this qualification in 2008.</p> <p>External Verifiers who hold this Unit (D35) are still considered to be qualified verifiers and are not required to undertake the new Unit. However, they must be working to the current L & D NOS and undertaking appropriate continuous professional development.</p> <p>Any new external verifiers should undertake the Learning and Development Units which are based on most recent National Occupational Standards (NOS).</p>	