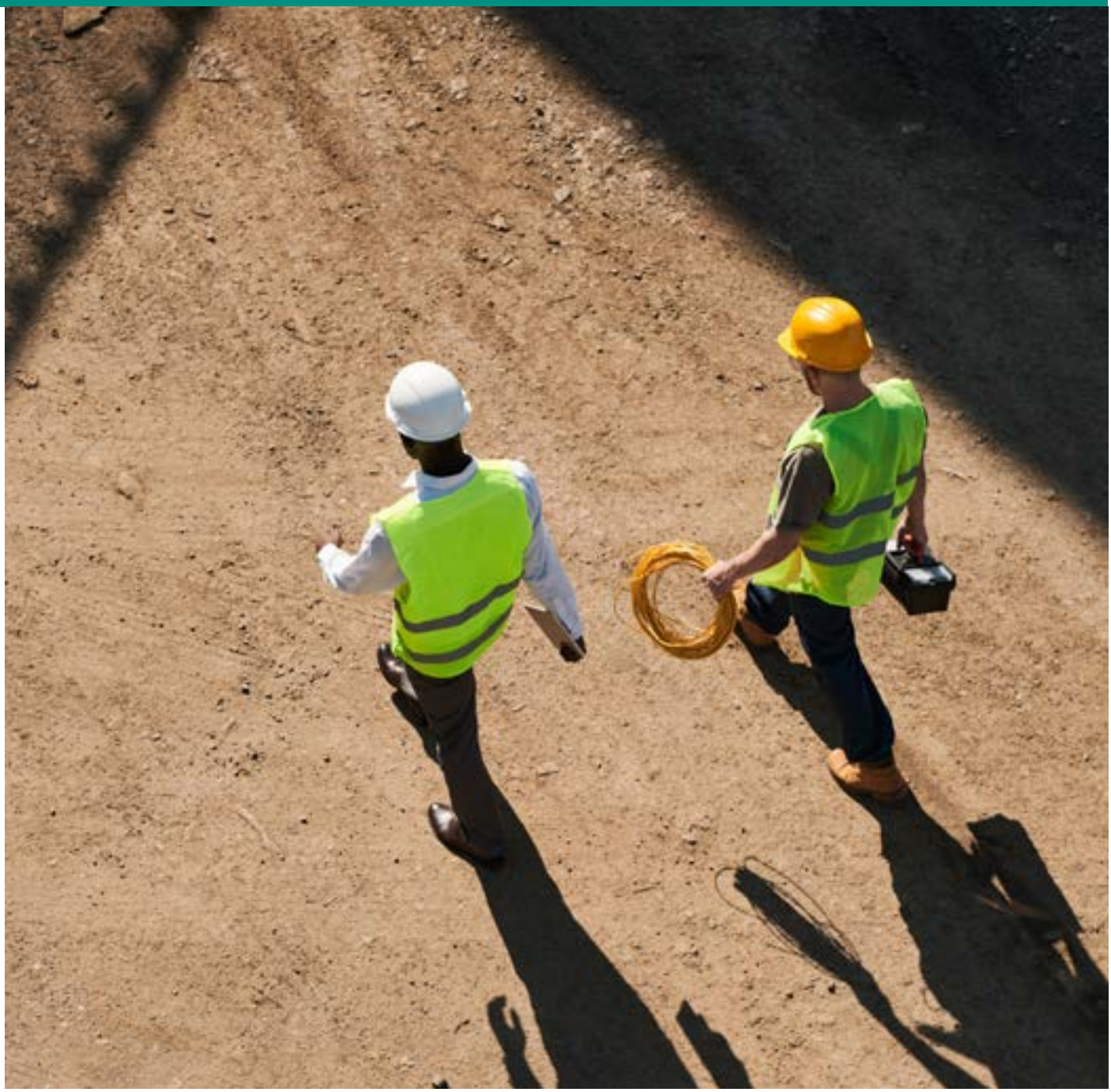
Laser Learning Awards

QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

Health and Safety in a Construction Environment



Qualification Review Date: 30 April 2031

www.laser-awards.org.uk

Laser Learning Awards

LASER supports its approved centres to develop flexible and responsive credit based courses. This includes those that widen access to lifelong learning, and address exclusion and participation. The structure of our qualifications enables learners to be recognised for their achievement, to accumulate credit, and use this to access further qualifications and learning over time.

LASER makes sure:

- quality assurance underpins all provision.
- only centres that meet national standards are approved (for course and qualification delivery and quality assurance).

LASER staff:

- have a wide experience of centre, course and qualification approval.
- support centres to make sure awards are valid and valued.

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Summary of Changes

Version	Publication Date	Summary of Changes
V1.2	October 2026	Qualification review date extended to 30 April 2031 pending CITB industry-wide consultation.
V1.1	July 2024	Document and file links updated throughout to accommodate new LASER website. General grammar, formatting and spelling updates.

1. Qualification Overview

OFQUAL QUALIFICATION NUMBERS	
610/2695/5	LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment

Laser Learning Awards is an awarding organisation regulated by Ofqual, the regulator of qualifications, examinations and assessments in England.

PURPOSE AND AIM OF QUALIFICATIONS	The LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment is designed to support learners working in or aspiring to work in the construction industry. It provides the knowledge of health and safety required to undertake a role in the construction industry safely. Learners achieving the qualification will be able to access the CITB Operatives Health, Safety and Environment knowledge test and can then apply for the CSCS Labourer's card.
WHO IS IT FOR?	This qualification is aimed at those working in or aspiring to work in the construction industry. Successful learners will be able to access the CITB Operatives Health, Safety and Environment knowledge test, achievement of which means they can apply for the CSCS Labourer's card.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	Learners must be aged 16 or above to achieve this qualification.
RULES OF COMBINATION	This qualification is made up of one mandatory unit.
UNIT	Please follow the link to the **unit list**.
ASSESSMENT	The qualification is assessed by portfolio of evidence or centre devised and marked written test that can include multiple choice questions.
PRICE	For LASER's price list, please click **here**.
DATES	Operational Start Date: 1 July 2023 Qualifications Review Date: 30 April 2031
TO DELIVER	Centres must meet LASER's requirements for centre recognition and qualification approval. Click **here** for details of how to become an Approved Centre. Requirements include those around teaching and learning resources, staffing, course and venues, record keeping, delivery, assessment, and quality assurance. Once approved, centres can download necessary forms from the **Quartz Web Portal**. This resource includes a range of information and guidance as well as providing access to secure web-based functions, designed to make the administration and assessment of qualifications simple and efficient.

2. About the Qualification

The LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment provides the knowledge that those seeking employment in or already working in the construction industry need to work safely in a construction setting. Learners successfully completing the qualification who go on to complete the CITB Operatives Health, Safety and Environment knowledge test will have met the requirements to apply for the CSCS Labourer's Card. The qualification is based on the requirements of the National Occupational Standard VR641.

2.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment will provide learners with knowledge of the key health and safety risks and hazards encountered in a construction environment.

Subjects include:

- Principles of risk assessment for maintaining and improving health and safety at work
- Importance of safe manual handling
- Importance of working safely at height
- Risks to health in a construction environment
- Importance of working safely around plant and equipment.

2.2 TARGET GROUP

The LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment is intended for learners seeking employment in or already working in the construction industry to provide the knowledge of how to keep safe in a construction setting. Learners successfully completing the qualification will be able to take the CITB Operatives Health, Safety and Environment knowledge test to apply for the CSCS Labourer's Card.

2.3 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Learners must be at least 16 years of age or older to enrol for this qualification. It is also recommended that learners have a basic understanding of English.

2.4 ACHIEVING THE QUALIFICATION

To achieve the LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment qualification, the learner must achieve the single mandatory unit, Health And Safety In A Construction Environment, worth 1 credit. The Guided Learning Hours (GLH) for this qualification are 21. The Total Qualification Time for this qualification is 29 hours.

To view the units and assessment criteria, please see the **Unit tab** on our website.

Each assessment criteria must be evidenced to have been met for a learner to achieve the unit. For more detail, please see **Section 3.2**.

2.5 TOTAL QUALIFICATION TIME AND GUIDED LEARNING HOURS

The required number of guided learning hours is as follows:

QUALIFICATION TITLE	CREDIT VALUE	GUIDED LEARNING HOURS (GLH)	TOTAL QUALIFICATION TIME* (TQT)
LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment	1	21	29

*

* Total Qualification Time represents an estimate of the total amount of time that a learner could reasonably expect to devote to successfully achieving the qualification. Total Qualification Time (TQT) is made up of Guided Learning hours (GLH) and Additional Hours (AH).

Values for Total Qualification Time, including Guided Learning, are calculated by considering the different activities that Learners would typically complete to achieve and demonstrate the learning outcomes of a qualification. They do not include activities which are required by a Learner's Teacher based on the requirements of an individual Learner and/or cohort. Individual Learners' requirements and individual teaching styles mean there will be variation in the actual time taken to complete a qualification. Values for Total Qualification Time, including Guided Learning, are estimates.

Some examples of activities which can contribute to Total Qualification Time include

- Independent and unsupervised research/learning
- Unsupervised compilation of a portfolio of work experience
- Unsupervised e-learning
- Unsupervised e-assessment
- Unsupervised coursework
- Watching a pre-recorded podcast or webinar
- Unsupervised work-based learning
- All Guided Learning

Some examples of activities which can contribute to Guided Learning include:

- Classroom-based learning supervised by a Teacher
- Work-based learning supervised by a Teacher
- Live webinar or telephone tutorial with a Teacher in real time
- E-learning supervised by a Teacher in real time
- All forms of assessment which take place under the Immediate Guidance or Supervision of a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training, including where the assessment is competence-based and may be turned into a learning opportunity.

2.6 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

The qualification is only available in English. Learners are expected to have a basic understanding of English.

2.7 PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES

This qualification provides the basic knowledge for learners to access employment on constructions sites and once completed learners may progress on to a wide range of other vocational qualifications in the construction sector including for specialist roles.

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3. Offering the Qualification

3.1 REQUIREMENTS FOR CENTRES

To offer this qualification through LASER, a centre must:

- be an approved LASER centre;
- be approved to offer the LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment;
- allow representatives from LASER and if necessary, and/or other authorities, to inspect and/or audit training venues, delivery, and/or assessment, to ensure consistent quality of delivery;
- meet all delivery and assessment requirements as specified within this document and its appendices.

3.2 THE QUALIFICATION APPROVAL PROCESS

The Qualification Approval Process seeks to establish that centres have in place:

- experienced and qualified trainers that meet the regulatory bodies' requirements;
- training and examination venues that meet the regulatory bodies' requirements;
- suitable teaching and learning resources.

Approved Centres should complete the required approval forms. Centres must gain approval if any part of the qualification is to be delivered as blended/distance or flexible learning.

3.3 LEARNING RESOURCES

Centres must have access to an appropriate range of teaching/learning materials. Learners must have access to appropriate learning resources/materials.

3.4 STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

LASER recommends that all tutors delivering this qualification are experienced and have a clear and complete understanding of the subject matter. It is recommended that tutors hold a recognised vocational qualification in a relevant subject such as Health and Safety in an appropriate context and are able to evidence a minimum of 30 hours subject related Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

All staff involved in the delivery of the qualification should have, or be working towards, a relevant teaching/ assessing/ quality assurance qualification.

SUMMARY OF TUTOR/ASSESSOR REQUIREMENT

Tutor/Trainer

All tutors/trainers delivering this qualification must hold, or be working towards, an appropriate teaching or training qualification and provide evidence of continuing professional development (CPD) from the previous two years. Tutor/trainers must have verifiable, current industry experience and a sufficient depth of relevant occupational expertise and knowledge.

Assessor

Those involved in the assessment of these qualifications must have knowledge and competency in health and safety as well as knowledge and competency to assess qualifications.

3.5 IDENTITY CHECKS

Centres offering this qualification must confirm the identity of all candidates prior to the completion of documentation and the undertaking of assessments. This is an essential part of the quality assurance process. The candidate's name and identity must match that of the legal documents presented by the learner, which must include a photograph. Records of ID checks must be kept and made available to LASER on request.

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4. How the Qualification will be Assessed

Assessments for this qualification are set and marked by the centre and are subject to LASER's requirements for quality assurance. All LASER approved centres will be given access to the **Quartz Web Portal** where all the relevant guidance and documentation is stored including the latest LASER Assessment Guidance.

4.1 ASSESSMENT DESIGN

This qualification can be assessed using:

- Portfolio of evidence
- Multiple choice questions

Centre devised assessments must be mapped to the unit assessment criteria and be approved by the LASER Quality Team (quality@laser-awards.org.uk) prior to the introduction of any assessment materials. Learners must achieve a pass for each assessment criteria in order to achieve the qualification. Assessment must be valid, reliable and sufficient to meet the outcome, and allow transparent authenticity: this means it must be apparent that evidence produced by a learner is the work of the individual learner, even if they have worked in a group. All centre devised assessments must be marked by the centre.

Centres are expected to have in place and be following, an IQA policy that includes a sampling procedure for internally quality assuring learners assessed work (See Section 6).

To view the units and assessment criteria, please see the **Unit tab** on our website.

4.2 RECORD KEEPING

For all qualifications, centres must retain complete and accurate relevant records securely for at least three years from the end of the academic year to which they relate. These records must be made available to LASER on request.

Records may be kept electronically and/or in hard copy, provided in either case they are kept securely. Relevant records may include (but are not limited to) assessment, internal quality assurance, certificate claims, learner attendance records, learner feedback forms, records of course runs, assessor and internal quality assurer CVs and qualifications.

An evidence log is available to track all learner achievements and can downloaded from the Quartz Web Portal. It is acceptable for the evidence to be held in a number of places, for example in a learner file and/or tutor file or on an intranet using a specific learner programme. Where evidence is held in a variety of places it must be clear precisely where the information is held, by using one record sheet such as the Individual Learner Record, and that the evidence is complete. Electronic evidence must be available to LASER Quality and Curriculum Reviewers when requested.

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5. Special Arrangements for Learners with Particular Requirements

For information on special arrangements please refer to the LASER policy document '**Access to Fair Assessment**'. This gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that can be made to take account of disability or learning difficulty without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

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6. Quality Assurance of the Qualification

Approved centres must implement the internal quality assurance arrangements detailed in the **LASER Centre Handbook** which is available to Approved Centres via the **Quartz Web Portal**. The assigned LASER Quality and Curriculum Reviewer will regularly monitor the Centre's compliance with these requirements and will report on the progress of any agreed actions for quality improvement.

All centres delivering LASER qualifications must have internal quality assurance systems to underpin the delivery of the qualification. Internal quality assurance is the process by which the centre regularly samples and evaluates its assessment practices and decisions, and acts on the findings, to ensure consistency and fairness. It involves two key processes; verification and standardisation and is done by one or more internal quality assurers.

Systems can vary between centres according to their particular situation, for example practices that work in a large centre are not necessarily effective in a smaller one. However, there must be:

- an appropriate quality assurance system in place and
- evidence the system is implemented effectively.

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7. Internal Quality Assurer Requirements

All Internal Quality Assurers (IQA) quality assuring these qualifications must hold a relevant vocational qualification and have a current and clear understanding of the subject matter. They should also have up-to-date knowledge and experience of best practice in assessment and quality assurance and should have or be working towards, a relevant teaching/assessing/quality assurance qualification. They should also show current evidence of continuing professional development in assessment and quality assurance.

Internal Quality Assurers must:

- Have knowledge of the requirements of the qualification they are quality assuring at the time any assessment is taking place.
- Have knowledge and understanding of the role of assessors.
- Visit and observe assessments.
- Carry out other related internal quality assurance.

7.1 STANDARDISATION

LASER will hold regular standardisation events to make sure there is consistent application of assessment. Centres are required to contribute to LASER's programme of standardisation and also to carry out appropriate internal standardisation.

LASER hold standardisation events on a rolling basis to make sure comparable standards are being achieved year on year and there is a consistency of delivery and assessment across centres. LASER Quality and Curriculum Reviewers will identify samples of learners' work that they want to retain for standardisation purposes during quality assurance visits. Centres are required to retain records of the assessment and internal quality assurance processes to contribute to standardisation events.

Where units are common to other awarding organisations' qualifications, LASER will work collaboratively to make sure standardisation requirements as set out in the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) and Ofqual's General Conditions of Recognition are met.

Standardisation activities also include opportunities for networking and sharing of resources, together with regular information about new or replacement units. Centres are recommended to attend these meetings, in addition to centre visits by LASER Quality and Curriculum Reviewers.

7.2 RETAINING EVIDENCE

Centres must retain complete and accurate records for at least three years from the date on which the course is completed. These records must be made available to LASER on request.

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Appendix 1: Ofqual Level Descriptors – Levels 1, 2 & 3

LEVEL	KNOWLEDGE (THE HOLDER...)	SKILLS (THE HOLDER CAN...)
Level 1	Has basic factual knowledge of a subject and/or knowledge of facts, procedures and ideas to complete well-defined routine tasks and address simple problems; and Is aware of aspects of information relevant to the area of study or work.	Use basic cognitive and practical skills to complete well-defined routine tasks and procedures. Select and use relevant information. Identify whether actions have been effective.
Level 2	Has knowledge and understanding of facts, procedures and ideas in an area of study or field of work to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems. Can interpret relevant information and ideas. Is aware of a range of information that is relevant to the area of study or work.	Select and use relevant cognitive and practical skills to complete well-defined, generally routine tasks and address straightforward problems. Identify, gather and use relevant information to inform actions. Identify how effective actions have been.
Level 3	Has factual, procedural and theoretical knowledge and understanding of a subject or field of work to complete tasks and address problems that while well-defined, may be complex and non-routine. Can interpret and evaluate relevant information and ideas. Is aware of the nature of the area of study or work. Is aware of different perspectives or approaches within the area of study or work.	Identify, select and use appropriate cognitive and practical skills, methods and procedures to address problems that while well-defined, may be complex and non-routine. Use appropriate investigation to inform actions. Review how effective methods and actions have been.

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Appendix 2: Unit List

Please click below for the unit content:

LASER Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment — OFQUAL CODE: 610/2695/5

As well as consulting this document, providers must also check LASER's essential information regarding the availability of all LASER's qualifications and units, including withdrawal notifications. LASER's 'Qualification and Unit Announcements' are available on the LASER website.

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