



INSTITUTE
OF THE MOTOR
INDUSTRY

www.theimi.org.uk/awarding

IMI QUALIFICATIONS ENGLAND & NI

*Leading the way in motor industry, and
associated sector, qualifications.*

ABOUT US

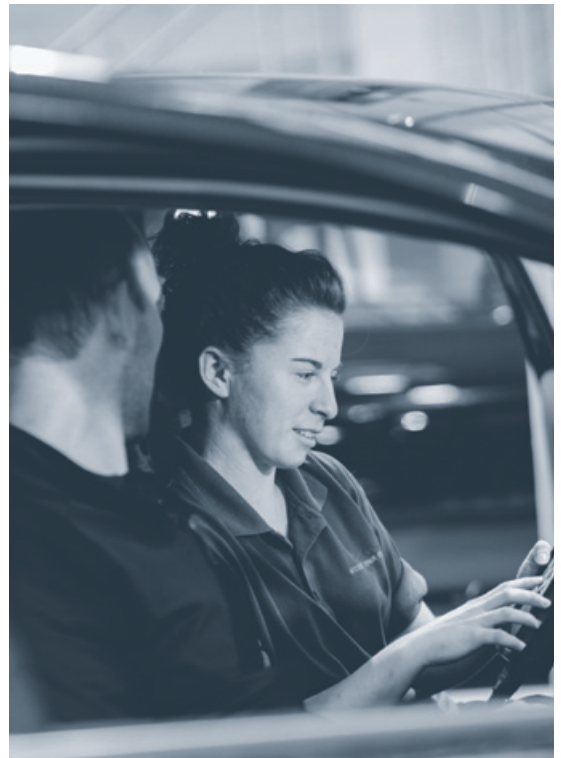
The Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) is the UK motor industry's first choice for automotive (and closely associated sector) qualifications and accreditations. Working closely with expert working groups from within the industry ensures our qualifications are relevant and sector-specific.

As the market leader, we partner with more than 600 training providers to offer over 250 nationally-recognised qualifications and accreditations. We recognise and support the skills of more than 100,000 young and adult learners each year.

IMI is committed to advancing the motor industry by raising the importance of vocational learning and professional achievement. We deliver this by being a pro-active, supportive and responsive partner to sector employers, our approved training centres and providers.

"Riverpark Training only uses IMI qualifications, as we have always found IMI to be very professional and have the true interests of the industry at heart. IMI qualifications meet the needs of our learners and because they are motor-specific, all the external quality assurers have a thorough understanding of specific vocational areas."

Colin Hagan, Riverpark Training and Development Ltd



KNOWLEDGE QUALIFICATIONS (VRQs / PRINCIPLES)

These are nationally-recognised, vocationally-related qualifications (VRQs) which provide the essential knowledge for individuals to fulfil a job role.

Many IMI Level 2 / 3 knowledge qualifications are the underpinning knowledge component of an Apprenticeship.

WHO ARE THEY SUITABLE FOR?

- Those who choose a vocational route
- Those in full or part-time further education
- Those seeking employment, who therefore do not have access to competence qualifications (e.g. VCQ or NVQ)
- Those undertaking an Apprenticeship with a knowledge qualification (VRQ) requirement

HOW DO YOU GET ONE?

- Full or part-time basis at an IMI Approved Centre
- Through training, and undertaking practical and online assessments, when required
- Typically each level is completed in an academic year

“What is particularly assuring, for both us and our learners, is that IMI are both the Sector Skills Council and the awarding organisation. This means that nobody knows the qualifications better than IMI, and therefore we receive the best possible support.”

Lee Passmoor, Mercedes-Benz UK Ltd



COMPETENCE QUALIFICATIONS (VCQs / NVQs / WORK-BASED)

These are nationally-recognised vocational qualifications that demonstrate competency in the workplace to a national standard. Competence qualifications are practically-based and, to establish skill and proficiency, are assessed in the workplace across a range of tasks.

Most IMI Level 2 / 3 competence qualifications are the underpinning competence component of an Apprenticeship.



“There are huge benefits to us for using IMI for qualifications. They offer qualifications for pre-16, whilst at school, Entry Level and through to Level 4. All IMI Qualification documentation is clear and easy to adapt to, which makes it very customer-friendly for both learners and tutors.”

Paul Sewell, Chesterfield College

WHO ARE THEY SUITABLE FOR?

- Those already in employment who wish to achieve a qualification that demonstrates competence in the workplace
- Those undertaking an Apprenticeship with a competence qualification, e.g. VCQ / NVQ, requirement

HOW DO YOU GET ONE?

- Register with an IMI Approved Centre. You will then be observed and assessed doing your job in the workplace
- A portfolio of evidence is gathered at work while carrying out tasks and meeting the assessment criteria
- Attend an IMI Approved Centre, in line with a scheduled timetable, to gain the underpinning knowledge needed to undertake the job role, and for online assessment, when required
- Typically completed in two years (Level 2) or three years (Level 3)

APPRENTICESHIPS: EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

An Apprenticeship is a vocational, work-based programme for those aged 16+ that demonstrates competence and knowledge. With a combination of on-the-job training and assessments, and training through an IMI Approved Centre. Apprenticeships demonstrate the individual's competence to undertake their job role to a national standard.

Apprenticeships include Employment Rights and Responsibilities (ERR).

ERR covers health and safety, employment rights and responsibilities, customer rights (including ethics) and industry news (including professional organisations), as well as environmental and economic concerns.

In England apprenticeships also cover Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS), which includes independent enquiry, creative thinking, reflective learning, team working, self-management and effective participation.

“IMI qualifications give both employers and candidates the satisfaction that the courses are designed for the industry, by the industry. They are safe in the knowledge that the training and assessment is relevant and provides candidates with the necessary competence to succeed.”

Blake Robinson, Exordia Training Ltd

WHO ARE THEY SUITABLE FOR?

- Those who prefer vocational training to academic study

HOW DO YOU GET ONE?

- The knowledge components (VRQ) and Functional / Essential Skills, are all delivered and achieved through an IMI Approved Centre
- To achieve the competence components you will be observed and assessed in the workplace
- A portfolio of evidence is gathered at work while carrying out tasks and meeting the assessment criteria
- In addition your knowledge will often be assessed via online assessment



INTERMEDIATE APPRENTICESHIP LEVEL 2 TYPICALLY CONSISTS OF:

KNOWLEDGE QUALIFICATIONS LEVEL 2

(VRQs / Principles)

COMPETENCE QUALIFICATIONS LEVEL 2

(VCQ / NVQ /
work-based)

FUNCTIONAL / ESSENTIAL SKILLS QUALIFICATIONS LEVELS 1 AND 2

as appropriate

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PERSONAL LEARNING AND THINKING SKILLS

England only

ADVANCED APPRENTICESHIP LEVEL 3 TYPICALLY CONSISTS OF:

KNOWLEDGE QUALIFICATIONS LEVEL 3

(VRQs / Principles)

COMPETENCE QUALIFICATIONS LEVEL 3

(VCQ / NVQ /
Work-based)

FUNCTIONAL / ESSENTIAL SKILLS QUALIFICATIONS LEVELS 1 AND 2

as appropriate

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PERSONAL LEARNING AND THINKING SKILLS

England only



FUNCTIONAL / ESSENTIAL SKILLS*

Functional / Essential Skills qualifications have been designed to help develop the skills used in everyday life, for example: reading, writing and maths. Functional / Essential Skills support personal development, progression onto further study and prepare learners for the working environment.

Functional / Essential Skills are practical skills in English, ICT and Maths; enabling students to work confidently, effectively and independently. Functional / Essential Skills form part of the Apprenticeship framework in England.

*Functional Skills (England only), Essential Skills (NI only).

WHO ARE THEY SUITABLE FOR?

- Those undertaking an Apprenticeship with a skills requirement
- Those studying vocational qualifications who wish to gain life skills to enhance their learning

HOW DO YOU GET ONE?

- Full or part-time basis at an IMI Approved Centre
- By additional training, if necessary, and online assessment
- Typically the required level is completed in an academic year



PRE-16 QUALIFICATIONS (VRQs)



These qualifications have been designed to give learners a broad understanding of the service and maintenance engineering sector, whilst also providing the opportunity to acquire a number of specialist practical and technical skills.

The learners will acquire significant core knowledge which spans the service and maintenance engineering sector. In addition they will be provided with the opportunity to develop their academic and study skills to support progression onto further qualifications and potential employment.

There are no formal entry requirements for these qualifications and learners are not expected to have any prior knowledge or experience, however an interest in the subject area is advisable. The content level of these qualifications would be similar to the study required for GCSE, grades A* - C.

England only: Some qualifications approved for pre-16 learners are also included in the Department for Education (DfE) list of approved qualifications. These are equivalent to one GCSE in school performance tables. This list is updated annually. For the latest approved list of qualifications and further information on performance tables, visit www.education.gov.uk.

WHO ARE THEY SUITABLE FOR?

- Those interested in automotive, cycle or land-based sectors
- 14 - 16 year olds, interested in progressing on to a higher level course

HELPFUL HINT:

You can have an Award, Certificate or Diploma of any difficulty level from 1 to 8. This is because the type indicates the size of qualification, not its difficulty. The title of a qualification should indicate its difficulty, how long it will take the average learner to complete, and its general content, using the following information:

- Qualification level (from lowest, entry level to level 8 at the top)
- Qualification size (award/certificate/diploma)
- Content of the qualification

REGULATED QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK (RQF)

All IMI Qualifications are on Ofqual's Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). Ofqual is the independent regulator for qualifications in England and, for vocational qualifications only, in Northern Ireland. The RQF provides a single system for cataloguing all qualifications regulated by Ofqual.

There are eight levels of the RQF, supported by three 'entry' levels. A qualification's level indicates the difficulty and complexity of the knowledge and skills associated with the qualification. Qualifications can sit at different levels, but can require similar amounts of study and assessment time. Equally, qualifications at the same level can take different amounts of study and assessment time.

A qualification's size refers to the estimated total amount of time it should typically take to study and be assessed for a qualification. This can be anything from a matter of hours to several years of study; and different students can take different amounts of time to study for the same qualification. Size is expressed in terms of Total Qualification Time (TQT). The part of that time typically spent being taught or supervised, rather than studying alone, is known as Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

To further understand the level of difficulty of the units and qualifications on the RQF, it might be helpful to know that GCSEs (grade A*–C) are Level 2, GCE A Levels are Level 3 and a PhD is a Level 8.

For further information on the RQF, please visit Ofqual's website:

www.gov.uk/find-a-regulated-qualification

Note: The RQF replaced the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and National Qualifications Framework (NQF) in October 2015.



HOW TO OFFER IMI QUALIFICATIONS

If you are an IMI Approved Centre simply visit www.theimi.org.uk/awarding, or contact your External Quality Assurer for further information.

If you are not an IMI Approved Centre, but are interested in offering IMI Qualifications and Accreditations, visit www.theimi.org.uk/becomeapproved.

IMI
Fanshaws
Brickendon
Hertford
SG13 8PQ

✉ enquiries@theimi.org.uk
☎ +44 (0) 1992 511 521
🐦 @IMI_Awards
🌐 theimi.org.uk/awarding