Qualification Specification

Pool Water Testing

Version 17.1

This qualification is regulated by Ofqual (England) , Qualifications Wales (QW) and CCEA (Northern Ireland)

STA Level 2 Award in Swimming Pool Water Testing

Qualification Number: 600/6016/5

Credit Value: 2 Credits

Unit Structure

This qualification consists of 1 mandatory unit

Unit Title	Code	Credit Value	Unit Level	GLH
Swimming Pool Water Testing	Y/503/0740	2	2	4

Total Qualification Time

4 Hours

QW Designation No:

C00/0453/9

Introduction:

The STA Level 2 Award in Swimming Pool Water Testing is designed to provide the basic information needed and the skills necessary to competently test Swimming Pool and Spa water and to provide a basic understanding of the outcomes of those tests.

Qualification Objective:

To equip candidates with the skills and theoretical knowledge to competently test swimming pool and spa water and a basic understanding of what the results indicate.

Target Learners

This qualification is relevant to those responsible for recreational water testing. Some examples of sites where water testing is required include:

- Swimming Pools
- Sports and Leisure Centres
- Health Clubs
- Spas (Including those displayed in retail outlets / distributors / installers)
- Hotels
- Holiday Parks
- Hydrotherapy Pools
- Schools
- Parks
- Lidos
- Interactive water features
- Swim schools

Progression

Following completion of this qualification learners can further their education in pool plant operations by undertaking a Swimming Pool Water Treatment or Pool Plant Operations Qualification. They could complete other leisure and recreation related qualifications. Gain / continue employment in leisure and recreation.

Industry Standards

The Pool Water Testing qualification follows the principles set out in the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group's (PWTAG) code of practice and publication 'Swimming Pool Water'. If follows a range of Health and Safety guidance documents including:

- HSG 179
- HSG 274
- HSG 282

Entry Requirements

Learners must be 16 years of age or above on the first day of the course

Grading Format

Pass / Fail

Assessment Methods

This qualification is tutor assessed through the completion of portfolio worksheets and a practical water test.

Validity of Qualification

This qualification is valid for 5 years

Tutor / Assessor Requirements

All tutors must have the skills, knowledge and experience to be able to teach and demonstrate the subject.

Each tutor must be approved by Safety Training Awards and provide evidence of a relevant in date pool plant operations qualification or acceptable recognised equivalent.

IQA Requirements

Internal Quality Assurers (IQAs) of this qualification must have knowledge and competency in Pool Plant Operations as well as knowledge and competency in internal quality assurance.

An IQA must hold:

1. Minimum of STA Pool Plant Operations (or acceptable equivalent)
2. Internal quality assurance qualification

Note: IQAs cannot quality assure a course for which they were the Tutor and/or Assessor.

Resource Requirements

Venue:

- Room size: Adequate space for all learners on the course to undertake theory and practical work
- Seats: One per learner
- Writing surfaces - Adequate for each learner to make notes
- Toilets: Separate facilities for male and female candidates
- Ventilation - Should be adequate
- Lighting: Should be suitable for reading, combining a mixture of natural and artificial light
- Heating - Should maintain a 'shirt sleeve' environment, minimum temperature 16oC
- Access / Exits: Should be safe, well lit and cater for people with special needs
- Cleanliness: Maintain a clean, tidy and hygienic environment
- Noise: Consider whether there is noise that may distract learners from training

Location:

Where possible the lecture venue should be in close proximity to the pool plant

Equipment:

Electrical items: When projectors and other electrical items are used, the equipment must be checked to ensure it is in safe working order. It is important to be aware of trip hazards associated with electric cables in order to reduce such risks.

Minimum requirements

- Laptop
- PowerPoint presentation
- Projector
- Pool testing equipment: Photometer or comparator - ratio 1:8 (1 to every 8 candidates on the course)

Recommended

- Flipchart
- Dry wipe board

Unit Specification

Unit Title	Swimming Pool Water Testing
Learning Outcomes	**Assessment Criteria**
1. Know about swimming pool water tests	1.1 Explain the importance of maintaining the quality of swimming pool water 1.2 Describe the range of tests that are used to judge the quality of swimming pool water, including: • Sensory inspections (for example, clarity, scum lines and foaming) • pH • Free disinfectant levels • Combined disinfectant levels • Microbiological 1.3 Explain why it is important to ensure test equipment is free of contamination 1.4 Describe an active leisure organisation's standard operating procedures for taking water samples 1.5 Explain the importance of following procedures to record the results of swimming pool water tests 1.6 Describe what an active leisure member of staff should do if they identify hazardous contaminants (for example, faeces or vomit) in the water
2. Be able to carry out swimming pool water testing	2.1 Take water samples • Carry out the following pool water tests • pH • Free disinfectant levels • Combined disinfectant levels 2.2 Microbiological 2.3 Record the results of pool water tests