

Important Information regarding LAMDA Examinations Qualifications

We are pleased to announce that we have extended our portfolio of qualifications accredited within the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) in the following areas:

New QCF Accredited Qualifications available from the 1 January 2011

Entry Level Award in Musical Theatre (Entry3)
Level 1 Award in Musical Theatre
Level 2 Award in Musical Theatre
Level 3 Certificate in Musical Theatre
Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM)
Level 5 Diploma in Communication, Speech and Drama Education (LSDE)

From 1 January 2011 you will be able to register and make learner entries on the QCF qualifications listed above.

These QCF qualifications will replace the existing NQF qualifications when the NQF qualifications accreditation ceases on the 31 December 2010.

Please note that it will not be possible to enter learners on the following NQF qualifications after 1 January 2011.

Existing NQF Qualifications due to expire on the 31 December 2010

Entry Level Musical Theatre for the Actor/Singer
Level 1 Musical Theatre for the Actor/Singer
Level 2 Musical Theatre for the Actor/Singer
Level 3 Musical Theatre for the Actor/Singer
Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM)
Level 5 LAMDA Diploma in Speech and Drama Education (LSDE)

Important information regarding Registration and Entries

Learners can be registered, entered and take their examinations for all the existing NQF Qualifications listed above until the registration end date of the 31 December 2010.

From 1 January 2011 learners who have not registered will be required to register and/or enter onto the new QCF qualifications.

Table 1 provides full details of entry/registration/examination start and end dates for both the NQF and QCF qualification versions.

Table 1: QCF/NQF Start and End Dates

Musical Theatre		PCertLAM		LSDE	
NQF Version	QCF Version	NQF Version	QCF Version	NQF Version	QCF Version
Last date where entries can be made and examinations can be taken	First date when examinations can be taken:	Last date where registration and unit entries can be made:	First date when unit examinations can be taken:	Last date where registration and unit entries can be made:	First date when unit examinations can be taken:
31 Dec 2010	1 Jan 2011	31 Dec 2010	1 Jan 2011	31 Dec 2010	1 Jan 2011

Please note:

If you wish to register or enter units for the NQF version of the PCertLAM or the LSDE you will be required to register and enter for all the component units of the qualification(s) prior to the Registration End Date of the 31 Dec 2010.

Claiming for Certification:

LAMDA Examinations will allow a specified period of time for the learner to complete the NQF qualifications and claim for certification. These differ by NQF qualification.

The specified time period for certificate claims for the NQF qualifications and the Certification End Dates are detailed in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Certification End Dates

Musical Theatre Certification End Date	PCertLAM Certification End Date	LSDE Certification End Date
<p>31 Dec 2010.</p> <p>There is no additional period for claiming certification following the last date of registration.</p>	<p>31 Dec 2011.</p> <p>One year completion period and certification claim. Valid only if the learner has registered and entered and paid the entry fee on all the component units of the qualification by the registration end date of the 31 Dec 2010.</p> <p>Claims for certification will not be accepted after this date.</p>	<p>31 Dec 2012.</p> <p>Two year completion period and certification claim. Valid only if the learner has registered and entered and paid the entry fee on all the component units of the qualification by the registration end date of the 31 Dec 2010</p> <p>Claims for certification will not be accepted after this date.</p>

If a learner has not entered for all the mandatory units of the qualification prior to the Registration End Date of the 31 December 2010 s/he will not be able to make a certificate claim for the full qualification. If the learner has been registered and entered on one or more units within the full qualification prior to the Registration end date s/he will still be able to claim for a unit certificate on successful completion of the unit(s). Claims for unit certification on these qualifications can only be made within the Certification End Dates provided in Table 2.

Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)

Learners who have been registered and entered and who have successfully completed part of either the PCertLAM or LSDE but are not able/eligible to complete the full NQF qualification within the Certification End Date will be able to apply for Recognised Prior Learning and gain QCF credits towards the new QCF qualification.

RPL is a method of assessment leading to the award of credit that considers whether a learner can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills they already possess and so do not need to develop through a course of learning.

Regulatory arrangements for the Qualifications and Credit Framework (Ofqual).

Table 3: RPL opportunities for the new QCF qualifications and their NQF counterpart qualifications.

Musical Theatre RPL Opportunities	PCertLAM RPL Opportunities	LSDE RPL Opportunities
None.	<p>Learners will be able to apply for RPL in these circumstances only.</p> <p>If the learner has successfully completed Units 1 Performance Theory (Workbook) and Unit 2 Performance Practice (Performance Recital) of the NQF qualification s/he will be able to apply for prior recognition on the QCF qualification for Unit 1: Performance Theory and Practice and Unit 2: Presenting a Performance Recital.</p> <p>A learner will not be able to seek RPL from the NQF qualification for credit on the QCF qualification for only Unit 1 or only Unit 2 as the NQF to</p>	<p>Learners will be able to apply for RPL in these circumstances only.</p> <p>If the learner has successfully completed Unit 3 Teaching Skills on the NQF qualification s/he will be able to apply for prior recognition for the QCF qualification Unit 3 Demonstrating Practical Teaching Skills in Communication, Speech and Drama.</p> <p>Note that the learner will be required to register and enter for both Unit 1 and Unit 2 to complete the full QCF qualification.</p> <p>Learners who have successfully completed Unit 1 and 2 of the NQF qualification</p>

	<p>QCF individual unit content is not comparable.</p> <p>If the learner has successfully completed Unit 3: Performance Theory (Oral Examination) on the NQF qualification s/he will be able to apply for prior recognition for the QCF qualification Unit 3: Knowledge of Performance Repertoire.</p>	<p>will not be eligible to apply for RPL for Units 1 and 2 of the QCF.</p>
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Learners/teachers/centres considering applying for RPL are asked to contact LAMDA Examinations in writing. Please refer directly to the RPL policy and Procedure which can be provided in request from LAMDA Examinations at exams@lamda.org.uk.

How to choose between QCF and NQF: Points to remember

You may wish to consider the following when selecting which qualification to register and/or enter on:

- the qualification's last Registration End Date
- the qualification's last Certification End Date
- the Recognised Prior Learning (RPL) opportunities available.

In addition the NQF qualifications do not carry any QCF credit. Learners who achieve one of these qualifications will not have credit to take forward into further study (unless RPL is awarded – Please refer to Table 3 for further details).

Currently only the NQF qualification for PCertLAM holds UCAS points within the UCAS Tariff. We are in the process of acquiring UCAS tariff points for the QCF version of the PCertLAM and we envisage UCAS points will be available for use in 2011. However we not can not assure learners that UCAS points will be available for new learners starting on the QCF version for 1 January 2011 at this time.

For further information please contact us on 0844 847 0520

Frequently Asked Questions

Musical Theatre

1. Do I need to tell you if I am entering a learner for a NQF or QCF examination when submitting my entries?

No. All Musical Theatre examinations taken on or before the 31 December 2010 will be entered under the NQF version. All Musical Theatre examinations taken on or after the 1 January 2011 will be entered under the QCF version.

2. Will the learner's certificate be any different?

There will be no changes to the certificate design. The only difference will be that the QCF version will record the learner's QCF credit value for the examination they have taken.

Level 3 Certificate in Speech and Drama: Performance Studies (PCertLAM)

1. I am currently registered on the NQF PCertLAM and have taken no units. Can I change to the QCF PCertLAM?

Yes. Any learner who is currently registered on the NQF PCertLAM and has not taken any unit examination can elect to change to the QCF PCertLAM by requesting this in writing.

2. I am registered on the NQF PCertLAM and want to complete the NQF version of the PCertLAM. What is the latest date to register and for all unit entries?

All unit entries for the NQF version of the PCertLAM must be made and the entry fee paid by the 31 December 2010. You then have up to the 31 December 2011 to successfully take all the units and claim for the full PCertLAM certificate.

3. I am not registered on the NQF PCertLAM and wish to take all my unit examinations on the NQF version of the PCertLAM. What is the latest date to register and for all unit entries?

All registrations and unit entries for the NQF version of the PCertLAM must be made with the entry fee paid by the 31 December 2010. You then have up to the 31 December 2011 to successfully complete all the units and claim for the full PCertLAM certificate.

4. I want to use UCAS points for university entry. Which PCertLAM should I register on prior to the 31 December 2010?

You should register and enter for units on the NQF version of the PCertLAM.

5. I want to register for the QCF PCertLAM. Can I register before the 1 January 2010?

Yes. You can register in advance of the 1 January 2011 by submitting a completed PCertLAM Registration form. You cannot take unit examinations prior to the 1 January 2011.

6. I have failed a unit on the NQF PCertLAM, can I re-take the unit?

Yes. Providing you originally registered and entered for all units of the NQF PCertLAM by the 31 December 2010 then you can re-take any unit any number of times by entering and paying the current entry fee for the unit. You then have up to the 31 December 2011 to successfully take all the units and claim the NQF PCertLAM certificate.

Level 5 LAMDA Diploma (LSDE)

1. I am currently registered on the NQF version of the LSDE but I have not entered for or completed any mandatory units. Can I change to the QCF LSDE?

Yes. Any learner who is currently registered on the NQF version of the LSDE and has not taken any unit examination can elect to change to the QCF version of the LSDE by requesting this in writing.

2. I am registered on the NQF version of the LSDE and would like to complete all the units in the NQF version. What is the latest date to register and for all unit entries?

All unit entries for the NQF version of the LSDE must be made with the entry fee(s) paid by the 31 December 2010. You will then have to the 31 December 2012 to complete all the units and claim the full qualification certificate.

3. I am not registered on the NQF version of the LSDE and wish to take all my unit examinations on the NQF version. What is the latest date to register and for all unit entries?

All registrations and unit entries for the NQF version LSDE must be made and the entry fee paid by the 31 December 2010. You then have up to the 31 December 2012 to successfully take all the units and claim for the full qualification certificate.

4. I want to register for the QCF Version of the LSDE; can I register before the 1 January 2010?

Yes. You can register in advance of the 1 January 2011 by submitting a completed LSDE Registration form. You cannot take unit examinations prior to the 1 January 2011.

5. I have failed a unit on the NQF LSDE. Can I re-take the unit?

Yes. Providing you originally registered and entered for all units of the NQF version of the LSDE by the 31 December 2010. You will then be allowed re-take any unit any number of times by entering and paying the current entry fee for the unit. You will only be able to re take units and claim for the full certificate for the NQF version of the LSDE until the Certification end date of the 31 December 2012.