

Important Information regarding LAMDA Examinations Qualifications

We are pleased to announce 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 the 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 end date ceases on the 31 December 2010.

It will not be possible to enter learners on these NQF qualifications after the 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 the 1st January 2010 learners will be required to register and/or enter onto the new QCF qualifications.

Table 1 provides full details of entry/registration/exam scheduling 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 and examination dates can be made/ | First date where entries/exam dates can be made/ | Last date where registration and unit entries can be | First date where registration and unit entries can be | Last date where registration and unit entries can be | First date where registration and unit entries can |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| scheduled: | scheduled: | made: | made: | made: | be made: |
| 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 on 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 during the transition from the expiry of the NQF to the start of the QCF qualifications will allow a period of time for the learner to complete the NQF qualifications and claim for certification.

The Certification End Dates differ by qualification and are tabled for information 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 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 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 they 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 they will still be able to claim for a unit certificate on successful completion of the unit(s). Claims for 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/entered and 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 |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Learners will not be able to apply for recognised prior learning to gain credit from a completed NQF qualification to the QCF qualification.</p> | <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 they 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 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 they will be able to apply for prior recognition for the QCF qualification Unit 3: Knowledge of Performance Repertoire.</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 they 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 will not be eligible to apply for RPL for Units 1 and 2 of the QCF.</p> |

Learners/teachers/centres considering applying for RPL are asked to contact LAMDA Examinations in writing. Please refer directly to the RPL policy and Procedure in the Guide for Centres and Teachers or a copy 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 Dates
- The qualification's last Certification End Dates
- 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).

The PCertLAM holds UCAS points on the UCAS tariff which are now available in both the current NQF and new QCF versions. The UCAS tariff points for the QCF version of the PCertLAM hold the same UCAS points as its NQF predecessor. Information on tariff points attributed to LAMDA Examinations qualifications is available on the UCAS website or at LAMDA Examination website www.lamda.org.uk.