



Ascentis Essential Digital Skills for Work and Life Qualifications (EDSQ)



Frequently
Asked
Questions

Real questions from centres answered by our Digital Development Team.

Q: Do you know how much funding will be available through legal entitlement?

A: Both the Entry 3 and Level 1 Award in Essential Digital Skills for Work and Life are fully funded under a new legal entitlement, solely for these qualifications and for learners aged 19 and over. It doesn't impact entitlements to other funding sources or the funding of other qualifications. For 2020-21 the funding is set at a maximum of £300 per learner. These qualifications are also suitable for learners aged 16-18 through alternative funding streams.



Q: How do Entry 1 and 2 learners access the qualifications and are they suitable for them?

A: The Entry 3 Award is suitable for any learner on the entry level continuum and is assessed at the end point, Entry 3. We have worked hard to ensure that our qualifications come with resources: full practice assessment, indicative content and tutor guidance, to aid delivery and support tutors. A large proportion of the assessment is created within the guided learning hours to ensure that Entry 1 and 2 learners are supported throughout these qualifications. We've created our new Essential Digital Skills qualifications in line with the National Standards, which were released in April 2019. At the time of writing a separate set of Occupation Standards at Entry 1 and Entry 2 does not exist and it is unclear how qualifications at these levels will be funded, if at all.



Q: Do Ascentis have a Level 2 qualification that learners can progress to?

A: Yes, we have a Level 2 digital qualification in Digital Skills for Business. This is not mapped to the National Standards as there is no provision for Level 2 in the current standards. However, taking a lead from Ofqual we have used the original standards and reclassified them to meet the requirements of centres and learners. For further information please contact us via email on EDSQ@ascentis.co.uk.



Q: An existing Ascentis centre has approval to deliver IT User Skills, will they require approval for the EDSQ?

A: As with any qualification, centres will have to receive approval to deliver the Essential Digital Skills for Work and Life. This can be done by contacting hello@ascentis.co.uk and requesting a qualification approval form and returning the completed form.

New centres that wish to deliver these qualifications will have to gain centre recognition which can again be requested by contacting the above email address or visiting www.ascentis.co.uk/join-us



Q: Will learners be able to do more than one digital course at Level 1 under the legal entitlement offer?

A: The legal entitlement is specifically for the qualifications written to the new National Standards. Any additional Level 1 qualifications within a digital suite would need to be funded by a separate funding stream.



Q: How will the assessments work? (e.g. online platform or paper-based)

A: It's done through an online assessment platform called Surpass. For further information on assessment methodology please send a request to EDSQ@ascentis.co.uk. You will receive a full and detailed explanation of assessment methods used for the Entry 3 and Level 1 Essential Digital Skills in Work and Life qualifications.



Q: What additional resources are available to support these qualifications?

A: Available now are supportive resources for ESOL learners, to aid delivery and learning of these qualifications, as well as diagnostic resources to help with the initial assessment. These qualifications are also accompanied by tutor guidance, indicative content and sample questions.

