

Centre Webinars

Ascentis Vocational Qualifications
Awarding Summer 2020 Guidance -
Extraordinary Regulatory Framework



Frequently
Asked
Questions

This document contains frequently asked questions from our recent webinars on Vocational Qualifications Awarding Summer 2020 Guidance - Extraordinary Regulatory Framework.

General

Question	Answer
Will the slides be available after the webinar?	Yes, the slides will be emailed to delegates after the webinar.
Where can I find the guidance documents on the website?	On the Ascentis website, here .
If learners have completed their qualification in the normal way are these subject to the ERF?	No. Learners who have completed their qualification, either before the 20 th March or subsequently through remote delivery, can be claimed for under the General Conditions, providing externally set assessments have not been adapted to facilitate this.
Do DCS claims go on to the CAG?	If the learners were able to complete work/assessments as normal and your centre were able to IQA it as normal, then claims can be made via DCS as normal. If claims are made under the ERF, then DCS would not apply.
Expected to end in that period? What if we have learners who we thought would have finished earlier than their EED?	If learners completed before the 20 th March, you should have the work to claim under the general conditions.

Mitigation

Question	Answer
Are certain types of mitigation appropriate to different qualifications?	Yes, Ofqual have produced a tool where you can check which is the appropriate mitigation type for your qualification. Summer 2020 Qualification explainer tool

Registrations

Question	Answer
Why is the deadline for registrations the 15 th June?	To allow centres to complete the process, Ascentis quality assurance conducted and certificates to be issued to learners.

Forms

Question	Answer
Will the review and sign off by the Head of Centre have a separate form or will it be on each form?	This is a separate form and will be completed per qualification suite by the IQA and HOC. Please refer to the guidance document located on the Ascentis website.

Will the ERF form be populated with current registered learners?	The form is per class and will be pre-populated with registered learners. Please review the guidance document which includes further detail about documenting evidence.
How do we access the CAG Record Forms or will they be sent to us?	Details about this is located on our webpage, here .
What information do we put in last column - evidence to support the CAG?	Please refer to our guidance document on the Ascentis website.
When will ERF Reports be available on QuartzWeb?	The ERF reports are available now. Guidance on downloading and completing them is on the Ascentis website.
Question	Answer
Is the ERF report on Quartz Web the CAG record or is there a separate CAG record form?	The ERF form is generated per class on QuartzWeb. There is a separate IQA/standardisation form that is on the website and is to be filled out per qualification area. Please refer to the Ascentis website with detailed guidance on this process.

Evidence

Question	Answer
How do I decide if I have enough evidence, either trusted or less trusted to claim through the ERF?	This will depend on the qualification, please refer to the guidance document on the Ascentis website. For a portfolio qualification, where the centre has continued to assess learner work post 20 th March, there may be sufficient criteria covered to claim the 50% threshold of minimum evidence. However, for qualifications with very distinct components that require externally set assessments to complete them, there will be more reliance on trusted evidence. We ask that Centres use their professional judgement to decide if there is sufficient evidence accumulated to decide whether a learner would have achieved their qualification in normal circumstances.
Can we use paper evidence that is still in the centre to inform CAG?	All evidence used to inform CAGs must be available for External Quality Assurance should this be requested. Please see page 8 of the guidance.
The website states that 'practice assessments' are trusted evidence. However, the slide refers to practice assessments as less trusted evidence?	Practice assessments conducted in controlled conditions would be trusted evidence.
How long does a centre need to retain the Standardisation forms for?	12 Months.

Are you expecting all trusted work to be sample IQA'd with completed IQA forms?	The IQA form for CAG should be completed at Qualification Area level, if Trusted evidence has already been through the IQA process it might not be necessary to complete this again, however any decisions would be down to the professional judgement of the IQA.
Confusion around 50% summative assessment or practice assessments as trusted evidence?	Please see the guidance document for further clarification as the requirements for Portfolio Qualifications and those with Externally Set Assessments vary slightly.
For learners completing AFTER 10 th July CAG deadline and by 31st July 2020, can the centre work with the allocated EQA to sample available learners' evidence?	To claim under the ERF, CAGs will need to be submitted by 10th July.
Question	Answer
For L2 Criminology we have had one IV and one successful EV so far for units 1-2. Many of the other units are now in portfolios and have been standardised however they were due to be IV'd during lockdown which hasn't been able to go ahead. Can CAG still be predicted for pass/fail based on this evidence?	If the evidence is available.
Can we use evidence submitted after lockdown if it can be authenticated?	Yes. However this will be less trusted evidence.
Is the 50% based on completed units or completed tasks?	For Portfolio qualifications, the 50% is based on completed tasks. However, the caveat to this is that the tasks should have been assessed and put through the IQA process. All mandatory core subjects should have been completed and practical elements should have been completed, either through live practice or simulation if the qualification specification allows for this.

Submission

Question	Answer
Does the Centre Submission have to be in one batch or cohort by cohort?	One batch for all qualifications.
Head of Centre should sign off before the claims are submitted on QuartzWeb?	Yes - all claims under the ERF should be submitted on QuartzWeb immediately after the paperwork has been signed off and submitted
So, if we have completed qualifications do we submit these together with CAGs on QuartzWeb in ONE submission? Or are these two SEPARATE submissions?	The separate types of assessment grades are recorded on the ERF and IQA form. However, all grades are uploaded to QuartzWeb in the usual way.

Quality Assurance

Question	Answer
If it's a Centre's first year of working with Ascentis, what historical evidence will you request?	If we have no evidence to compare with, we will increase the amount of External Verification Scrutiny for the Centre.
Do we need to rank pass/fail courses	We do not require you to rank the courses as such, but compare the achievement trend for qualifications to previous years to ensure that there is some parity.
Will requested be made via a random sample?	On receipt of your ERF documentation, it is possible that Ascentis may request evidence to support your judgement for a sample of learners, this will facilitate the External Quality Assurance process.
Question	Answer
Are we submitting examples of every learner's work or will you be asking to see random samples at a later date?	We will request any samples we wish to see to support the ERF Quality Assurance Process.

ESOL

Question	Answer
Do ESOL learners on individual skills modules (termly) have to be registered for Writing this term even if they have already been registered for e.g. Reading this academic year?	If you are wanting to claim under the ERF you will need to register on all units you are submitting a CAG for.
Can a summative Reading or Speaking/Listening assessment be used as evidence for the Writing calculated grade? As this is a modular program with a single exam I can't see how any summative assessment could be of the SAME skill!	Unfortunately, because the components of these qualifications are so different there has to be evidence for each component separately.
ESOL perspective, you say at least 1 summative assessment, if they have not done a summative assessment can we use a practice paper with progress made up to 20th March to reach a CAG?	Yes, but separate evidence for each component.
How trusted would practice ESOL exams in a controlled environment be please?	This is a trusted source of evidence.