

Qualification Allowance for Teaching Assistants

The entitlement to the qualification allowance is for Teaching Assistants on Grade 4 (Grade 6 in special schools) who have an accepted and relevant qualification as listed below; anything else is at the discretion of the school, who must be consistent in their agreements. The qualification has to be a Level 3 NVQ, Level 3 CACHE or equivalent, or qualified teacher status. Level 2 is not good enough.

It is a school cost and there is no additional central contribution. Payment only goes back to the start of the financial year when claimed or to the date of obtaining the qualification, whichever is the later.

The qualification allowance as at 1st April 2022 is £973.68 pa (pro-rata for part-time) and increases each year in line with the pay award for support staff.

The following qualifications are acceptable plus any qualification equivalent to NVQ and CACHE level 3 and considered relevant to the post by the school:

1. Qualified School Teacher Status
2. NNEB Certificate and equivalent qualifications
3. City & Guilds Learning Support (No grade mentioned)
4. City & Guilds Level 3 Certificate in Learning Support
5. Specialist Teaching Assistant
6. The Special Schools qualification run at Westminster College (run around 1999 – 2002?)
7. Level 3 Diploma in Child Care and Education (awarded by CACHE)
8. Level 3 Diploma in Pre-School Practice (CACHE)
9. Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Care and Education (Welsh Medium) (CACHE)
10. Level 3 Playgroup Practice in Wales (CACHE)
11. Level 3 BTEC National Certificate in Early Years (EDEXCEL)
12. Level 3 BTEC National Diploma in Early Years (EDEXCEL)
13. Level 3 Certificate in Childminding Practice (CACHE) plus the local Young Children Learning Course.
14. Level 3 Certificate of Professional Development in Work with Children and Young People (CACHE) plus the local Young Children Learning Course
15. Level 3 Diploma in Playwork (CACHE) plus the local Young Children Learning Course
16. Level 3 Progression Award in Playwork (City & Guilds) plus the local Young Children Learning Course
17. Advanced Certificate in Playwork (NCFE) plus the local Young Children Learning Course
18. Foundation Degree in Arts in Classroom Support (equivalent to NVQ level 4)
19. Foundation Degree in Classroom Support (equivalent to NVQ level 4)
20. Foundation Degree in Arts in Learning and Teaching (Schools)
21. Open University Certificate in Early Years Practice (equivalent to NVQ level 4)
22. Diploma in Playgroup Practice (Pre-School Playgroup Association) (1991-1995)
23. Diploma in Pre-School Practice (Pre-School Learning Alliance)

24. Diploma in Nursery Nursing (National Association for Maternal & Child Welfare)
25. Any qualification on the Early Years & Playgroup Historical Qualification list used by OFSTED
26. Specialist Dyslexia qualification at Middlesex University (60 CATS points)
27. NVQ in Classroom Support
28. NVQ for Teaching Assistants
29. NVQ in Supporting Teaching and Learning.

Discretionary – All schools

30. Qualified Nurse where nursery skills are used
31. Any degree where the subject matter is used to support the curriculum
32. Qualified Social Worker course if relevant to job
33. PGCE (post 16 Education) if used to support the curriculum
34. NVQ Level 3 courses in subject other than Learning Support where considered to be job related
35. City & Guilds FE Teachers Certificate Stage 2 (Secondary Schools only)

HLTA's – The Higher-Level Teaching Assistant status certificate issued mostly by the TDA (Training & Development Agency for school's) does not mean the Qualification Allowance is automatically paid as this is not a Qualification, it is a status.

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