

Purpose Statement

SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts – 500/9145/1



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Overview

The suite of Skills and Education Group Awards Counselling qualifications have been in operation for over 20 years and were developed in response to the need to provide a structure for the approval of counsellor training programmes.

The Level 2 suite offers an excellent range of qualifications which provide you with an introduction, for those who have had no previous experience of, or training in the field of counselling. The Level 2 Award and Certificate in Counselling Skills enables you the opportunity to develop a range of introductory counselling skills, techniques, and theoretical knowledge. All of which are developed through the following themes: communication, reflection, theories and diversity. These qualification provide a useful progression route into further study and it is not a license to practice.

The SEG Awards Level 3 Counselling qualifications (Certificate and Diploma) are designed for those seeking progression to become a qualified professional counsellor or for individuals who wish to acquire counselling skills for use in other work areas, e.g. nurses, social workers, teachers. Themes that are covered include counselling theories, ethics and diversity, and personal awareness. The purpose of this qualification is to provide you with a useful vocational progression route into further study and is not a license to practice.

The SEG Awards Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling supports learners to develop and demonstrate skills, knowledge and understanding of Counselling, towards achieving professional status as a counselling practitioner. It is also suitable for learners in work roles where counselling skills are needed for example: nursing, teaching, social work, voluntary sector, the police and armed forces.

Benefits for learners

Undertaking these Level 2 qualifications allow learners to:

- Enhance and improve your verbal and written communication skills
- Develop a basic understanding of the counselling concepts
- Develop an understanding of the importance of continuously developing self-awareness. Which is particularly important for learners who may wish to progress to further study and qualifications leading towards becoming a counsellor
- Demonstrate core counselling skills in a helping relationship
- Develop knowledge and understanding of counselling theories
- Demonstrate ways to address difference and diversity in counselling skills practice
- Achieve a nationally recognised Level 2 qualification that is vocationally focused
- Prepare for progression onto appropriate, higher level qualifications

Who is the qualification for?

The SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts is a qualification designed as a basic generic introduction to counselling for those aged 16 years and above who have had no previous experience of, or training in, the field of counselling. Its versatility appeals to a wide range of potential learners and the target market includes those who are considering embarking on formal counselling training as an intended career change. The course allows learners to make a more informed choice as to whether or not to embark on a demanding vocational training towards a possible career in counselling or an allied career, e.g. welfare advice work, where counselling skills would be useful. It is also intended for those who wish to improve their listening and communication skills.

It is appropriate for those who are:

- Returning to study
- Seeking a career change
- Undertaking voluntary work
- Enhancing career prospects through extra qualifications
- Thinking of training as a professional counsellor

- Seeking development of enhanced social skills

This 5 credit qualification has 3 mandatory units, 2 two credit units and 1 one credit unit. All are vocational and relate to the sector in the title. Both the minimum and maximum vocational content is 100%.

Prospective learners should be made aware that this level of course is not intended to train counsellors and that they will not be qualified to practice as counsellors on completion of this course, or even claim to be competent in the use of counselling skills.

Skills and Education Group Awards expects approved centres to recruit with integrity on the basis of a learner's ability to contribute to and successfully complete all the requirements of a unit/s or the full qualification.

What does the qualification cover?

The SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts qualification covers the following three topics:

The Professional Context of Counselling – This unit provides a basic introduction to counselling. Learners will develop an understanding of what counselling is and an appreciation that qualified counsellors and those who use counselling skills abide by an ethical framework. They will learn about the importance of creating the correct environment and the right ethos for the helping relationship to be successful.

Communication Skills in Helping Relationships – In this unit, learners will explore effective communication skills used in helping relationships. They will demonstrate a range of listening and responding skills to establish, develop and close interactions.

An Introduction to Personal Development – In this unit, learners will have the opportunity to reflect on their personal development and identify areas for development in the future.

What could this qualification lead to?

Will the qualification lead to employment, and if so, in which job role and at what level?

Successful completion of the SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts, or an equivalent, could be used as a pre-requisite for entry into the Level 2 Award and Certificate in Counselling Skills, and also the Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Skills programme. However, for those who do not intend to continue their studies further in the field of counselling, the course can be a valuable introduction to communication skills transferable into a range of career and educational opportunities.

NB Progression from a Level 2 programme onto a Level 3 programme is not automatic. Learners are advised to check with the centres regarding selection procedures which may require further evidence of a learner's suitability to progress to Level 3. This programme demands that learners can demonstrate understanding in extended written form.

Will this qualification lead to further learning?

This Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts is not intended to train counsellors and you will not be qualified to practice as a counsellor on completion. To do this, you will need to undertake further training, onto higher level of study and skills acquisition. An example of which includes Level 2 Award and Certificate in Counselling Skills, Level 3 Certificate or Diploma in Counselling Skills, which leads through onto the SEG Awards Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling or other such equivalent qualifications. Postgraduate and post qualifying qualifications in counselling studies are available to enhance the practice, skills and knowledge of a practising counsellor. You may also progress towards national accreditation status with professional lead bodies.

If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification or it is available at different skills levels, why should a student take this particular one?

The SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts is part of a small suite of qualifications:

- Level 2 Award in Counselling Skills – 600/1050/2
- Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills – 600/1051/4

The reason for having the varying sizes of qualification in the suite at level 2 is to meet the various needs of you the learner.

The Level 2 Award in Counselling Concepts is an introductory qualification which provides you with an opportunity to develop a basic understanding of counselling. You will be able to compare and contrast counselling with other forms of helping activities. Through experiential learning you will develop an understanding of what counselling training entails. This will assist you to make a more informed choice as to whether or not you are suited to undertake vocational counselling training as opposed to other types of training. Progression is possible from this qualification onto other SEG Awards Counselling qualifications but is not automatic.

For further information visit

<https://skillsandeducationgroupawards.co.uk>