

Purpose Statement

SEG Awards British Sign Language Qualifications

Qualification Titles

- SEG Awards Entry Level Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language (Entry 2) (601/2897/5)
- SEG Awards Entry Level Award in British Sign Language (Entry 3) (603/0802/3)
- SEG Awards Level 1 Award in British Sign Language (603/0808/4)
- SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language (601/2898/7)
- SEG Awards Level 3 Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language (601/2899/9)

Overview

The above suite of Skills and Education Group Awards British Sign Language (BSL) qualifications consist of practical, vocationally related, credit based qualifications at five different levels. The suite provides valuable opportunities for individuals to develop skills and gain underpinning knowledge and understanding in the areas of signing and receiving skills. The suite is linked to the Common European Framework and provides a ladder of progression from beginner (Entry Level qualifications) to independent user (Level 3 qualifications).

What does this qualification cover?

These qualifications enable learners to gain crucial language skills for work or social purposes. They allow learners to expand cultural knowledge, participate in multilingual communities and improve communication skills when travelling abroad for business and/or pleasure.

Levels

The differences between the levels of qualifications are defined in the table below, to assist learners in identifying at which level to commence studying.

Level	Definition
Entry Level 2	Learners will understand and communicate basic personal and work related messages in familiar situations.
Entry Level 3	Learners can demonstrate a range of signs and basic phrases around familiar social or work situations.
Level 1	Learners can deliver a short presentation on a chosen topic and participate in simple dialogue.
Level 2	Learners can understand, communicate and put into practice standard information both in everyday life and in work-related situations.

Level 3	Learners put complex information into practice both in everyday life and in work situations, presentations and meetings.
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Learners should seek appropriate advice and guidance on the suitability of the qualification level before embarking on a course of study.

Who could take this qualification?

These qualifications are designed for those learners aged either pre or post 16 years of age:

- who wish to continue language training in addition to their normal studies
- who wish to study for personal development in the wider sense of lifelong learning
- who wish to progress to more advanced study
- not in employment and wishing to acquire basic (e.g. *Entry 2-3*)/further (e.g. *Level 1-2*)/advanced (e.g. *Level 3*) language skills to enhance future employment opportunities
- in employment and wishing to acquire basic (e.g. *Entry 2-3*)/further (e.g. *Level 1-2*)/advanced (e.g. *Level 3*) language skills where the use of a second language is a requirement or an asset, such as in teaching support, the travel industry; youth work, volunteering in the community and as a resulting outcome, to enhance employment opportunities and career development.

Entry Requirements

Qualification Level	Suggestions for Qualification – prior knowledge	Formal Entry Requirements
Entry 2	N/A	There are no formal entry requirements for the Entry 2 qualification of this suite. However, to fully benefit from a language qualification at a more advanced level, learners may find it advisable to have some prior knowledge and understanding. Skills and Education Group Awards would recommend that learners receive appropriate advice and guidance on the suitability of the qualification before embarking on any learning at higher levels
Entry 3	SEG Awards Entry Level Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language (Entry 2) or equivalent Entry 2 Level BSL qualification.	
Level 1	SEG Awards Entry Level Award in British Sign Language (Entry 3) or equivalent Entry 3 Level BSL qualification.	
Level 2	SEG Awards Level 1 Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language or equivalent Level 1 BSL qualification.	
Level 3	SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language or equivalent Level 2 BSL qualification.	

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

By developing signing and receiving skills in a vocational context this suite of BSL qualifications improves employment prospects where basic/intermediate linguistic abilities would develop personal confidence and enhance job performance in current roles. For example, front line staff who are in contact with deaf people through their day to day jobs working for example; in local authority organisations (*e.g. Entry – Level 2*), retail establishments (*e.g. Entry – Level 1*), the health care sector and community organisations (*e.g. Entry – Level 3*).

Will the qualification support progression to further learning, if so, what to?

This suite of qualifications prepare learners by developing; signing and receiving skills in BSL, to progress to a qualification in the same subject area to a higher level requiring more specific knowledge and skills along with understanding.

Progression Opportunities

Level	Progression Qualifications
Entry 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEG Awards Entry Level Award in British Sign Language (Entry 3)• An equivalent Entry 3 Level BSL qualification
Entry 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEG Awards Level 1 Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language• An equivalent Level 1 BSL qualification
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEG Awards Level 2 Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language• An equivalent Level 2 BSL qualification
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEG Awards Level 3 Award in Signing and Receiving Skills in British Sign Language• An equivalent Level 2 BSL qualification.
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IBSL Level 4 Certificate in British Sign Language

If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification at the same Level, why should a learner take this particular qualification?

This suite of qualifications provides varying sized qualifications. The necessity for this is to ensure learners who especially have no qualifications in this area, have an opportunity for incremental learning, to obtain the basic skills that can be built on to develop and progress further within the chosen language and provide an opportunity for individualised specific skills selection.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the qualification can be found on Skills and Education Group Awards website.