SEG Awards Certa Level 4 Certificate in Canine and Feline Veterinary Health Nutrition

Qualification Guidance

Level 4 Certificate – 601/3049/0

About Us

Skills and Education Group Awards (Certa Awards) [1] continually invest in high quality qualifications and services across education. As a result we have a long-established reputation for supporting skills providers to enable individuals to gain skills for employment, skills for learning and skills for progression.

Skills and Education Group Awards has an on-line registration system to help customers register learners on its qualifications, units and exams. In addition it provides features to view exam results, invoices, mark sheets and other information about learners already registered.

The system is accessed via a web browser by connecting to our secure website using a username and password: Skills and Education Group Awards Secure Login

Sources of Additional Information

The Certa Awards Website www.certaawards.co.uk provides access to a wide variety of information.

Copyright

Specification Code, Date and Issue Number

Version	Date of Issue	Comments
1.0	Dec 2015	Published in new format
1.1	October 2017	Qualification extended
1.2	August 2018	Published in new format
1.3	July 2019	Updated logo & website link
1.4	April 2021	Addition of Operational End Date and Certification End Date

[1] Certa Awards is a brand of the Skills and Education Group Awards, a recognised awarding organisation and part of the Skills and Education Group. Any reference to Certa Awards, its registered address, company or charity number should be deemed to mean the Skills and Education Group Awards.

Contents

This is a live document and as such will be updated when required. It is the responsibility of the approved centre to ensure the most up-to-date version of the Qualification Guide is in use. Any amendments will be published on our website and centres are encouraged to check this site regularly.

Introduction

The SEG Awards Certa Level 4 Certificate in Canine and Feline Veterinary Health Nutrition is intended for qualified veterinary nurses and can be delivered as part of their annual 100 hours of mandatory Continuing Professional Development training.

The qualification has been carefully designed with an appropriate size and structure for those veterinary nurses who need to have knowledge of nutritional management of their patients and need to understand the nutritional status of both the domestic pet cat and dog. It is a stand-alone qualification and is only available to qualified veterinary nurses.

To achieve the qualification a learner will be required to complete all six mandatory units which is the minimum knowledge required for the job role.

Aims

The qualification is for qualified veterinary nurses and provides learners with the combined knowledge of the nutritional management of the domestic pet cat and dog and can be offered as part of Continuing Professional Development programme (CPD).

Content Overview

The SEG Awards Certa Level 4 Certificate in Canine and Feline Veterinary Health Nutrition covers the following mandatory topics:
- Anatomy and Physiology of the Canine and Feline Digestive Tract
- Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition: Major Body Systems and Critical Care
- Canine and Feline Diet Types and Feeding Regimes
- Essentials of Canine and Feline Nutrition
- Principles of Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition
- Principles of Canine and Feline Lifestage Nutrition

Progression Opportunities

This is a stand-alone qualification that is designed to form part of the annual 100 hours mandatory CPD of a qualified veterinary nurse.

Language

These specifications and associated assessment materials are in English only.

Qualification Summary

Qualification and Pathways	
SEG Awards Certa Level 4 Certificate in Canine and Feline Veterinary Health Nutrition	
Qualification Number	601/3049/0
Regulated	The qualification, identified above, is regulated by Ofqual.
Assessment	Internal assessment, internal and external moderation.
Grading	Pass
Operational Start Date	1st April 2014
Ofqual Review Date	31st October 2021
Operational End Date	31st August 2022
Certificate End Date	31st August 2025
Certa Sector	Animal Care
Ofqual SSA Sector	3.3 Animal Care and Veterinary Science
Stakeholder Support	
Contact	See the Certa Awards Website for Centre Support Officer responsible for this qualification.

SEG Awards Certa Level 4 Certificate in Canine and Feline Veterinary Health Nutrition

Rules of Combination:
To achieve this qualification learners must achieve all 18 credits from the six mandatory units.

Mandatory Units	Unit Number	Level	Credit Value*	GL
Anatomy and Physiology of the Canine and Feline Digestive Tract	T/506/1557	4	3	18
Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition: Major Body Systems and Critical Care	A/506/1558	4	3	18
Canine and Feline Diet Types and Feeding Regimes	F/506/1559	4	3	18
Essentials of Canine and Feline Nutrition	T/506/1560	4	3	18
Principles of Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition	A/506/1561	4	3	18
Principles of Canine and Feline Lifestage Nutrition	D/506/1567	4	3	18

*Credit Values may not be appropriate and may not be included

Qualification Purpose	This is intended for qualified veterinary nurses and can be delivered as part of their annual 100 hours of mandatory Continuing Professional Development training.					
Entry Requirements	This qualification is designed for learners who are already qualified as veterinary nurses.					
Age Range	Pre 16		16 - 18		18+		19+	✓
GL	108					
TQT	180					
Credit Value	18					
Learning Aims Reference	See Learning Aim Reference Service (LARS) website: https://data.gov.uk/dataset/learning-aim-reference-service					

Type of Funding Available	See Learning Aim Reference Service (LARS) website
Qualification Fee / Unit Fee	See Certa Awards Website for current fees and charges.
Additional Information	See Certa Awards Website for resources available for this qualification.

Assessment Overview

Summary

This qualification will be awarded to learners who successfully achieve the six mandatory units within the qualification in accordance with the Rules of Combination, by meeting the specified Assessment Criteria.

Please note that the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria must not be changed in any way.

Who can assess this qualification?

- We require those involved in the assessment process to be suitably experienced and/or qualified. In general terms, this usually means that the assessor is knowledgeable of the subject/occupational area to a level above that which they are assessing.
- In addition, all tutors / assessors must have an MSc (or level 7 equivalent) in a companion animal behaviour related subject AND be a Certified EMRA Practitioner.
- Assessors should also be trained and qualified to assess or be working towards appropriate qualifications.

Unit Details

1. Anatomy and Physiology of the Canine and Feline Digestive Tract

Unit Reference	T/506/1557
Level	4
Credit Value	3
Guided Learning	18 hours
Unit Summary	This unit has four learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes The learner will:	Assessment Criteria The learner can:

1. Understand canine and feline digestive anatomy.	1.1 Analyse the structure and explain the position of each of the organs constituting the canine and feline digestive tract including the:
	    o mouth, tongue, teeth and salivary glands
	    o oesophagus
	    o stomach
	    o small intestine
	    o large intestine and caecum
	    o rectum, anus and anal sacs
	
	1.2 Analyse the structure and explain the position of the liver, gall bladder and the pancreas.

2. Understand canine and feline digestive physiology.	2.1 Evaluate the functions of each organ within the digestive tract. 2.2 Evaluate the functions of the liver and pancreas 2.3 Evaluate the process by which food moves through the digestive tract. 2.4 Evaluate the role of the commensal digestive microflora and the process of bacterial fermentation.

3. Understand canine and feline digestive biochemistry.	3.1	Evaluate the digestive enzymes responsible for nutrient breakdown
	3.2	Analyse the processes involved in the breakdown and absorption of nutrients
4. Understand the concepts of digestibility and palatability.	4.1	Review the appropriateness of the concept of digestibility.
	4.2	Analyse the factors that affect digestibility
	4.3	Analyse why digestibility is an important consideration when manufacturing pet food.
	4.4	Define palatability and analyse the factors that affect it.
	4.5	Analyse why palatability is an important consideration when manufacturing pet food.

Supporting Unit Information

Anatomy and Physiology of the Canine and Feline Digestive Tract – T/506/1557 – Level 4

Indicative Content

Note: Indicative content provides an indication of the scope for the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria. It is intended as a resource to help guide the delivery and assessment of the unit. Indicative content is NOT a statement of material which must be covered and evidenced for assessment. For further information please contact us.

Learning Outcome 1: Understand canine and feline digestive anatomy.

Learning Outcome 2: Understand canine and feline digestive physiology.

Learning Outcome 3: Understand canine and feline digestive biochemistry.

Learning Outcome 4: Understand the concepts of digestibility and palatability.

Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities

Centres should adopt a delivery approach which supports the development of their particular learners. The aims and aspirations of all learners, including those with identified special needs, including learning difficulties/disabilities, should be considered and appropriate support mechanisms put in place.

Methods of Assessment

Centres **must** ensure that all internally assessed evidence is generated by each individual candidate. Where candidates do work in groups, it is important that the assessor is able to make an accurate assessment of each individual's contribution to the group.

Minimum requirements when assessing this unit
Certa expects that staff will be appropriately qualified to assess learners against the outcomes and criteria within the units. Generally teaching staff should be qualified and/or vocationally experienced to at least a level above that which they are teaching.

Evidence of Achievement

This unit has one prescribed assessment method:
- Written description

Additional evidence for this unit may include, but is not limited to:
- Group discussion
- Written questions and answers
- Oral question and answer
- Report

It is good practice to use a range of assessment methods appropriate to meet the assessment criteria and the candidate's needs.

All evidence must be clearly signposted and made available for external moderation upon request.

Any photographic evidence must be appropriately annotated to clearly demonstrate the candidates' role and how it meets the assessment criteria.

Witness and observation statements must be specific and contain the name, signature and role of the witness / observer.

Additional Information

Additional guidance for delivering and assessing Certa qualifications and information about Internal Quality Assurance is available on the Certa Awards Website.

2. Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition: Major Body Systems and Critical Care

Unit Reference	A/506/1558
Level	4
Credit Value	3
Guided Learning	18 hours
Unit Summary	This unit has three learning outcome.

Learning Outcomes The learner will:	Assessment Criteria The learner can:
1. Understand the nutritional needs of canine patients with a dysfunction of one of the major body systems.	1.1 Evaluate the common causes of diseases affecting the major body systems of the dog including the: o gastrointestinal tract o liver o kidneys o urinary tract o heart o skin 1.2 Interpret how each disease can affect the nutritional needs of dogs. 1.3 Analyse the nutritional requirements and management for canine patients diagnosed with each disease/condition.
2. Understand the nutritional needs of feline patients with a dysfunction of one of the major body systems.	2.1 Evaluate the common causes of diseases affecting the major body systems of the cat including the: o Gastrointestinal tract o Liver o Kidneys o Urinary tract o Heart o Skin 2.2 Interpret how each disease can affect the

		nutritional needs of cats
	2.3	Analyse the nutritional requirements and management for feline patients diagnosed with each disease/condition
3. Understand canine and feline critical care nutrition.	3.1	For ill or injured hospitalised patients: ○ analyse the factors which can contribute to poor nutritional status ○ interpret when additional nutritional support is indicated ○ critically review the management of patients requiring additional nutritional support
	3.2	Evaluate how convalescence can affect the nutritional needs of patients.

Supporting Unit Information

Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition: Major Body Systems and Critical Care – A/506/1558 – Level 4

Indicative Content

Note: Indicative content provides an indication of the scope for the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria. It is intended as a resource to help guide the delivery and assessment of the unit. Indicative content is NOT a statement of material which must be covered and evidenced for assessment. For further information please contact us.

Learning Outcome 1: Understand the nutritional needs of canine patients with a dysfunction of one of the major body systems.

Learning Outcome 2: Understand the nutritional needs of feline patients with a dysfunction of one of the major body systems.

Learning Outcome 3: Understand canine and feline critical care nutrition.

Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities

Centres should adopt a delivery approach which supports the development of their particular learners. The aims and aspirations of all learners, including those with identified special needs, including learning difficulties/disabilities, should be considered and appropriate support mechanisms put in place.

Methods of Assessment

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Minimum requirements when assessing this unit
Certa expects that staff will be appropriately qualified to assess learners against the outcomes and criteria within the units. Generally teaching staff should be qualified and/or vocationally experienced to at least a level above that which they are teaching.

Evidence of Achievement

This unit has one prescribed assessment method:
- Written description

 Additional evidence for this unit may include, but is not limited to:
- Report
- Written questions and answers
- Oral question and answer
- Essay
- Professional discussion

It is good practice to use a range of assessment methods appropriate to meet the assessment criteria and the candidate's needs.

All evidence must be clearly signposted and made available for external moderation upon request.

Any photographic evidence must be appropriately annotated to clearly demonstrate the candidates' role and how it meets the assessment criteria.

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Additional Information

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3. Canine and Feline Diet Types and Feeding Regimes

Unit Reference	F/506/1559
Level	4
Credit Value	3
Guided Learning	18 hours
Unit Summary	This unit has three learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes The learner will:	Assessment Criteria The learner can:

1. Understand the different types of diet available for canines and felines.	1.1 Critically compare 'complete' and 'complementary' foods available for canines and felines
	
	1.2 Evaluate the relative advantages and disadvantages of:
	  o commercially produced and homemade diets
	  o wet and dry diets
	
	1.3 Review the appropriateness of 'lifestage' and 'dietetic' diets
	
	1.4 Interpret the term 'fixed formula' and its implications
	
	1.5 Evaluate how dietary characteristics can differ across the pet food market
	
	1.6 Interpret the role and use of supplements as part of a healthy diet

2. Understand canine and feline feeding behaviour and regimes	2.1 Critically compare the differences in natural feeding behaviour of canines and felines and how this affects an ideal feeding regimes within a domestic environment 2.2 Analyse how to determine correct feeding

	volumes for an individual canine and feline including:
	     o using feeding guides
	     o calculating daily requirements
	     o assessing an individual's ideal body weight
	     o body condition scoring
	     o determining how feeding volumes should be altered in response to an individual's needs

3. Understand pet food labelling	3.1 Interpret the legislation surrounding pet food labelling 3.2 Analyse and explain the various terms used on pet food labels 3.3 Evaluate the difficulties involved in comparing different diets when considering the information provided on the label 3.4 Analyse and explain how to calculate nutrient content on a 'per energy' basis

Supporting Unit Information

Canine and Feline Diet Types and Feeding Regimes – F/506/1559 – Level 4

Indicative Content

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Learning Outcome 1: Understand the different types of diet available for canines and felines.

Learning Outcome 2: Understand canine and feline feeding behaviour and regimes.

Learning Outcome 3: Understand pet food labelling.

Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities

Centres should adopt a delivery approach which supports the development of their particular learners. The aims and aspirations of all learners, including those with identified special needs, including learning difficulties/disabilities, should be considered and appropriate support mechanisms put in place.

Methods of Assessment

Centres **must** ensure that all internally assessed evidence is generated by each individual candidate. Where candidates do work in groups, it is important that the assessor is able to make an accurate assessment of each individual's contribution to the group.

Minimum requirements when assessing this unit
Certa expects that staff will be appropriately qualified to assess learners against the outcomes and criteria within the units. Generally teaching staff should be qualified and/or vocationally experienced to at least a level above that which they are teaching.

Evidence of Achievement

This unit has one prescribed assessment method:

- Written description

Additional evidence for this unit may include, but is not limited to:
- Essay
- Written questions and answers
- Oral question and answer
- Report
- Professional discussion

It is good practice to use a range of assessment methods appropriate to meet the assessment criteria and the candidate's needs.

All evidence must be clearly signposted and made available for external moderation upon request.

Any photographic evidence must be appropriately annotated to clearly demonstrate the candidates' role and how it meets the assessment criteria.

Witness and observation statements must be specific and contain the name, signature and role of the witness / observer.

Additional Information

Additional guidance for delivering and assessing Certa qualifications and information about Internal Quality Assurance is available on the Certa Awards Website.

4. Essentials of Canine and Feline Nutrition

Unit Reference	T/506/1560
Level	4
Credit Value	3
Guided Learning	18 hours
Unit Summary	This unit has four learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes The learner will:	Assessment Criteria The learner can:	
1. Understand the major nutrient groups in canine and feline nutrition.	1.1	Define the term 'nutrient'.
	1.2	Analyse each of the major nutrient groups.
	1.3	Explain the role of the major nutrient groups within the body.
	1.4	Evaluate the role of fibre in healthy digestion.
2. Understand how the canine and feline diet fulfils energy needs.	2.1	Analyse the concept of 'metabolisable energy'.
	2.2	Evaluate the different ways in which metabolisable energy can be determined.
3. Understand the concept of balanced canine and feline nutrition.	3.1	Interpret what is meant by the term 'balanced diet'.
	3.2	Critically compare canine and feline nutritional requirements
	3.3	Evaluate the consequences of nutritional imbalances in canine and feline diets
4. Understand the concept of health nutrients.	4.1	Interpret what is meant by the term 'health nutrient'.
	4.2	Compare and contrast the beneficial roles of

	health nutrients.

Supporting Unit Information

Essentials of Canine and Feline Nutrition – T/506/1560 – Level 4

Indicative Content

Note: Indicative content provides an indication of the scope for the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria. It is intended as a resource to help guide the delivery and assessment of the unit. Indicative content is NOT a statement of material which must be covered and evidenced for assessment. For further information please contact us.

Learning Outcome 1: Understand the major nutrient groups in canine and feline nutrition.

Learning Outcome 2: Understand how the canine and feline diet fulfils energy needs.

Learning Outcome 3: Understand the concept of balanced canine and feline nutrition.

Learning Outcome 4: Understand the concept of health nutrients.

Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities

Centres should adopt a delivery approach which supports the development of their particular learners. The aims and aspirations of all learners, including those with identified special needs, including learning difficulties/disabilities, should be considered and appropriate support mechanisms put in place.

Methods of Assessment

Centres **must** ensure that all internally assessed evidence is generated by each individual candidate. Where candidates do work in groups, it is important that the assessor is able to make an accurate assessment of each individual's contribution to the group.

Minimum requirements when assessing this unit
Certa expects that staff will be appropriately qualified to assess learners against the outcomes and criteria within the units. Generally teaching staff should be qualified and/or vocationally experienced to at least a level above that which they are teaching.

Evidence of Achievement

This unit has one prescribed assessment method:
- Written description

Additional evidence for this unit may include, but is not limited to:
- Essay
- Written questions and answers
- Oral question and answer
- Professional discussion
- Group discussion

It is good practice to use a range of assessment methods appropriate to meet the assessment criteria and the candidate's needs.

All evidence must be clearly signposted and made available for external moderation upon request.

Any photographic evidence must be appropriately annotated to clearly demonstrate the candidates' role and how it meets the assessment criteria.

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Additional Information

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5. Principles of Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition

Unit Reference	A/506/1561
Level	4
Credit Value	3
Guided Learning	18 hours
Unit Summary	This unit has five learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes The learner will:	Assessment Criteria The learner can:
1. Understand the influence of nutrition on stress and anxiety in canine and feline patients.	1.1 Analyse the physiological and behavioural changes associated with stress and anxiety in canine and feline patients. 1.2 Evaluate how dietary management may help these canine and feline patients.
2. Understand the management of overweight or obese canine and feline patients.	2.1 Evaluate the development of canine and feline obesity. 2.2 Analyse the effects of canine and feline obesity on general health. 2.3 Analyse the nutritional adaptations and management of an overweight canine and feline patient to help support a healthy weight loss. 2.4 Evaluate the management changes required to maintain a healthy target weight in canine and feline patients.
3. Understand the nutritional management of canine and feline patients with	3.1 Interpret how diabetes may affect the nutritional needs of canine and feline patients. 3.2 Analyse the nutritional adaptations which

diabetes.		may help to support canine and feline patients with diabetes.
	3.3	Review the effectiveness of the nutritional management of canine and feline patients with diabetes.
4. Understand how nutrition can help to support dental and joint health in canine and feline patients.	4.1	Interpret common canine and feline conditions which can affect the: ○ teeth ○ joints
	4.2	Analyse the nutritional adaptations that can be used to support dental and joint health.
	4.3	Evaluate the steps that owners can take to minimise dental and joint health risks.
5. Understand the implications of current developments in canine and feline clinical nutrition.	5.1	Evaluate current developments in canine and feline clinical nutrition.
	5.2	Analyse the implications of current developments for canine and feline health.

Supporting Unit Information

Principles of Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition – A/506/1561– Level 4

Indicative Content

Note: Indicative content provides an indication of the scope for the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria. It is intended as a resource to help guide the delivery and assessment of the unit. Indicative content is NOT a statement of material which must be covered and evidenced for assessment. For further information please contact us.

Learning Outcome 1: Understand the influence of nutrition on stress and anxiety in canine and feline patients.

Learning Outcome 2: Understand the management of overweight or obese canine and feline patients.

Learning Outcome 3: Understand the nutritional management of canine and feline patients with diabetes.

Learning Outcome 4: Understand how nutrition can help to support dental and joint health in canine and feline patients.

Learning Outcome 5: Understand the implications of current developments in canine and feline clinical nutrition.

Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities

Centres should adopt a delivery approach which supports the development of their particular learners. The aims and aspirations of all learners, including those with identified special needs, including learning difficulties/disabilities, should be considered and appropriate support mechanisms put in place.

Methods of Assessment

Centres **must** ensure that all internally assessed evidence is generated by each individual candidate. Where candidates do work in groups, it is important that the assessor is able to make an accurate assessment of each individual's contribution to the group.

Minimum requirements when assessing this unit
Certa expects that staff will be appropriately qualified to assess learners against the outcomes and criteria within the units. Generally teaching

staff should be qualified and/or vocationally experienced to at least a level above that which they are teaching.

Evidence of Achievement

This unit has one prescribed assessment method:
- Written description

Additional evidence for this unit may include, but is not limited to:
- Essay
- Written questions and answers
- Oral question and answer
- Report
- Professional discussion

It is good practice to use a range of assessment methods appropriate to meet the assessment criteria and the candidate's needs.

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Additional Information

Additional guidance for delivering and assessing Certa qualifications and information about Internal Quality Assurance is available on the Certa Awards Website.

6. Principles of Canine and Feline Lifestage Nutrition

Unit Reference	D/506/1567
Level	4
Credit Value	3
Guided Learning	18 hours
Unit Summary	This unit has six learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes The learner will:	Assessment Criteria The learner can:

1. Understand adult canine and feline nutritional requirements.	1.1 Evaluate adult canine and feline nutritional requirements.
	
	1.2 Analyse the effects of a good quality diet on adult canine and feline health.
	
	1.3 Analyse the maintenance energy requirements for adult canines and felines.
	
	1.4 Analyse the factors affecting maintenance energy requirements in adult canines and felines.
	
	1.5 Analyse how a diet can be tailored according to adult canine and feline individual needs including:
	   o size
	   o breed
	   o lifestyle
	   o health sensitivities

2. Understand canine and feline nutritional requirements during growth.	2.1 Analyse how and explain why growth affects canine and feline nutritional requirements. 2.2 Analyse canine and feline nutritional and energy requirements needed for growth. 2.3 Evaluate the common causes and

		consequences of inappropriate feeding of canines and felines during growth.
3. Understand nutritional requirements of the neutered canine and feline.	3.1	Analyse the metabolic changes associated with neutering which can affect canine and feline nutritional needs.
	3.2	Evaluate how canine and feline diets can be adapted to support the needs of: ○ growing neutered dogs and cats ○ adult neutered dogs and cats
4. Understand the canine and feline nutritional requirements for reproduction.	4.1	Analyse canine and feline nutritional requirements for each stage of reproduction.
	4.2	Evaluate appropriate canine and feline feeding regimes throughout the reproductive cycle.
5. Understand how physiological stress can affect the nutritional requirements of healthy adult canines.	5.1	Evaluate the nutritional requirements of healthy adult canines to include: ○ different activity levels ○ different working environments.
6. Understand the effects of healthy ageing on canine and feline nutritional requirements.	6.1	Analyse the changes that can occur with age, which may affect canine and feline nutritional needs.
	6.2	Evaluate how canine and feline diets can be adapted to support the needs of healthy ageing.

Supporting Unit Information

Principles of Canine and Feline Lifestage Nutrition – D/506/1567 – Level 4

Indicative Content

Note: Indicative content provides an indication of the scope for the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria. It is intended as a resource to help guide the delivery and assessment of the unit. Indicative content is NOT a statement of material which must be covered and evidenced for assessment. For further information please contact us.

Learning Outcome 1: Understand adult canine and feline nutritional requirements.

Learning Outcome 2: Understand canine and feline nutritional requirements during growth.

Learning Outcome 3: Understand nutritional requirements of the neutered canine and feline.

Learning Outcome 4: Understand the canine and feline nutritional requirements for reproduction.

Learning Outcome 5: Understand how physiological stress can affect the nutritional requirements of healthy adult canines.

Learning Outcome 6: Understand the effects of healthy ageing on canine and feline nutritional requirements.

Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities

Centres should adopt a delivery approach which supports the development of their particular learners. The aims and aspirations of all learners, including those with identified special needs, including learning difficulties/disabilities, should be considered and appropriate support mechanisms put in place.

Methods of Assessment

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Minimum requirements when assessing this unit

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Evidence of Achievement

This unit has one prescribed assessment method:
- Written description

Additional evidence for this unit may include, but is not limited to:
- Essay
- Written questions and answers
- Oral question and answer
- Report
- Professional discussion

It is good practice to use a range of assessment methods appropriate to meet the assessment criteria and the candidate's needs.

All evidence must be clearly signposted and made available for external moderation upon request.

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Witness and observation statements must be specific and contain the name, signature and role of the witness / observer.

Additional Information

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Appendices

Recognition of Prior Learning, Exemption and Credit Transfer

Certa's policy enables learners to avoid duplication of learning and assessment in a number of ways:

- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – a method of assessment that considers whether a learner can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills they already possess and do not need to develop through a course of learning.
- Exemption - Exemption applies to any certificated achievement which is deemed to be of equivalent value to a unit within a Certa qualification but which does not necessarily share the exact learning outcomes and assessment criteria. It is the assessor's responsibility, in conjunction with the Internal Moderator, to map this previous achievement against the assessment requirements of the Certa qualification to be achieved in order to determine its equivalence.
- Any queries about the relevance of any certificated evidence, should be referred in the first instance to your centre's internal moderator and then to Certa.
- It is important to note that there may be restrictions upon a learner's ability to claim exemption or credit transfer which will be dependent upon the currency of the unit/qualification and a learner's existing levels of skill or knowledge.
- Where past certification only provides evidence that could be considered for exemption of part of a unit, learners must be able to offer additional evidence of previous or recent learning to supplement their evidence of achievement.
- Credit Transfer – Certa may attach credit to a qualification, a unit or a component. Credit transfer is the process of using certificated credits achieved in one qualification and transferring that achievement as a valid contribution to the award of another qualification. Units / Components transferred must share the same learning outcomes and assessment criteria along with the same unit number. Assessors must ensure that they review and verify the evidence through sight of:
    - original certificates OR
    - copies of certificates that have been signed and dated by the internal moderator confirming the photocopy is a real copy and make these available for scrutiny by the External Moderator
- Equivalencies – opportunities to count credits from the unit(s) from other qualifications or from unit(s) submitted by other recognised organisations towards the place of mandatory or optional unit(s) specified in the rule of combination. The unit must have the same

credit value or greater than the unit(s) in question and be at the same level or higher.

Certa encourages its centres to recognise the previous achievements of learners through RPL, Exemption and Credit Transfer. Prior achievements may have resulted from past or present employment, previous study or voluntary activities.

Centres should provide advice and guidance to the learner on what is appropriate evidence and present that evidence to the external moderator in the usual way.

Further guidance can be found in 'Delivering and Assessing Qualifications' which can be downloaded from the Certa Awards Website.

Certification

Learners will be certificated for all units and qualifications that are achieved and claimed.

Certa's policies and procedures are available on the Certa Awards Website.

Glossary of Terms

Guided Learning (GL)

GL is where the learner participates in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision of a tutor (or other appropriate provider of education or training). It may be helpful to think – 'Would I need to plan for a member of staff to be present to give guidance or supervision?'

GL is calculated at the unit/component level and added up at the qualification level.

- Examples of guided learning include:
- Face-to-face meeting with a tutor
- Telephone conversation with a tutor
- Instant messaging with a tutor
- Taking part in a live webinar
- Classroom-based instruction
- Supervised work
- Taking part in a supervised or invigilated formative assessment
- The learner is being observed as part of a formative assessment

TQT (Total Qualification Time)

'The number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected to be required, in order for a learner to achieve and demonstrate the achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of a qualification.' The size of a qualification is determined by the TQT.

TQT is made up of the GL plus all other time taken in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training but not under the direct supervision of a lecturer, supervisor or tutor.

TQT is calculated at qualification level and not unit/component level.

Examples of unsupervised activities that could contribute to TQT include:
- Researching a topic and writing a report
- Watching an instructional online video at home/e-learning
- Watching a recorded webinar
- Compiling a portfolio in preparation for assessment
- Completing an unsupervised practical activity or work
- Rehearsing a presentation away from the classroom
- Practising skills unsupervised
- Requesting guidance via email – will not guarantee an immediate response.