

SEG Awards Level 3 Certificate in Canine Nutrition

England – 610/3468/X

About Us

At Skills and Education Group Awards we continually invest in high quality qualifications, assessments and services for our chosen sectors. As a UK leading sector specialist, we continue to support employers and skills providers to enable individuals to achieve the skills and knowledge needed to raise professional standards across our sectors.

Skills and Education Group Awards have 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 [Skills and Education Group Awards](#) website provides access to a wide variety of information.

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Specification Code

The specification code is C9251-03.

Issue	Date	Details of change
1.0	November 2023	New qualification guide
1.1	November 2025	Added paragraph under Assessment heading to clarify the number of examples required

		when learners are asked to demonstrate various methods or techniques
1.2	February 2026	Review date updated to 31/10/2028 Updated document to new company branding

This guide should be read in conjunction with the Indicative Content document which is available on our secure website using the link above.

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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 Specification is in use. Any amendments will be published on our website and centres are encouraged to check this site regularly.

Qualification Summary

SEG Awards Level 3 Certificate in Canine Nutrition	
Qualification Purpose	<p>This qualification provides the learners with the knowledge to promote a deep understanding of the nutritional needs of canines at different life stages and with various health conditions, enabling learners to develop and implement effective dietary plans.</p> <p>Occupations within Animal Care Services has shown a strong increase of demand over the past 3 years, with occupation postings increasing by 9%. The sector continues to rise with occupation opportunities within this field, with an expected 3% rise, providing learners with a great opportunity of success when achieving this qualification.</p>
Age Range	Pre 16 16-18 ✓ 18+ ✓ 19+ ✓
Regulation	The above qualification(s) is/are regulated by Ofqual
Assessment	Portfolio of Evidence
Type of Funding Available	See FaLA (Find a Learning Aim)
Grading	Pass/Fail Only
Operational Start Date	24/11/2023
Review Date	31/10/2028
Operational End Date	
Certification End Date	
Guided Learning (GL)	220
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	250
Credit Value	25

Skills and Education Group Awards Sector	Agriculture, Environment and Animal Care
Regulator Sector	3.3 - Animal care and veterinary science
Support from Trade Associations	

Introduction

The SEG Awards Level 3 Certificate in Canine Nutrition has been designed to develop knowledge and skills within Canine Nutrition.

Pre-requisites

There are no entry requirements for this qualification however, it is expected for Learners to have working knowledge of at least Level 2.

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

Qualification Structure and Rules of Combination

Rules of Combination: SEG Awards Level 3 Certificate in Canine Nutrition

Learners must achieve 25 credits. All credits must come from the 3 mandatory units.

Unit Title	Unit Number	Level	Credit Value	GL
Mandatory Group Minimum Credit Target - 25				
Canine Nutrition	Y/650/9188	3	8	70
Canine Lifestyle Nutrition	A/650/9189	3	9	80
Canine Diet Effects on Behaviour and Welfare	H/650/9190	3	8	70

Aim

The SEG Awards Level 3 Certificate in Canine Nutrition has been designed to provide learners with the knowledge and information regarding animal digestion along with appropriate feeding and nutrition in canines.

Target Group

The SEG Awards Level 3 Certificate in Canine Nutrition is designed for learners of the age of 16 and over, who are currently working with canines wanting to achieve a recognised qualification, learners who aspire to work with canines or for those wanting to increase their current knowledge on feeding their own canines.

Practical hours Requirement

There is no external practical hour requirements attached to this qualification.

Assessment

This qualification is to be completed by portfolio submission, with clear evidencing linked to the relevant Assessment Criteria.

Unless stated otherwise, Skills and Education Group Awards require a minimum of three examples when learners are asked to demonstrate various methods or techniques. This requirement ensures that the learner shows a clear understanding of the assessment criteria.

Centres must take all reasonable steps to avoid any part of the assessment of a learner (including any internal quality assurance and invigilation) being undertaken by any person who has a personal interest in the result of the assessment.

Resources

Skills and Education Group Awards provides the following additional resources for this qualification:

- > Purpose Statement
- > Learner Unit Achievement Checklist
- > Indicative Content

Practice Assessment Material

Skills and Education Group Awards confirm that there are no practice assessment material for this qualification.

Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities

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

Progression Opportunities

By obtaining this qualification, learners will have the necessary skills and knowledge to allow them the opportunity to potentially progress into employment working with Canines.

This qualification goes hand in hand with a variety of Skills and Education Group Awards regulated qualifications within the Animal Care sector, supporting learners' knowledge and experience in animal care.

Centres should be aware that Reasonable Adjustments, which may be permitted for assessment, may in some instances limit a learner's progression into the sector. Centres must, therefore, inform learners of any limits their learning difficulty may impose on future progression.

Tutor / Assessor Requirements

Skills and Education Group Awards require those involved in the teaching and assessment process to be suitably experienced and / or qualified. Assessors should also be trained and qualified to assess or be working towards appropriate qualifications.

Those responsible for Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) must be knowledgeable of the subject/occupational area to a suitable level to carry out accurate quality assurance practices and processes.

Language

This specification and associated assessment materials are in English only.

Unit Details

Canine Nutrition	
Unit Reference	Y/650/9188
Level	3
Credit Value	8
Guided Learning (GL)	70
Unit Summary	<p>Within this unit, Learners will look at the digestive process in Canines, and how the provision of different diets can impact their health and welfare.</p> <p>This unit is a knowledge-based unit, with no physical requirements.</p>
Learning Outcomes (1 to 5)	Assessment Criteria (1.1 to 5.4)
The learner will	The learner can
1. Know the Canine digestive process	1.1 Evaluate the structure and function of the components of the Canine digestive system 1.2 Describe the order of events in the Canine digestive process
2. Understand Canine nutrition	2.1 Explain the nutrients necessary to be provided in a Canine diet 2.2 Compare and contrast Canine diets in relation to nutrients contained within them 2.3 Describe foods that are toxic to dogs and how these effect the body
3. Know different types of Canine diets	3.1 Evaluate the advantages of providing a 'ready-made' commercial Canine diet 3.2 Evaluate the disadvantages of providing a 'ready-made' commercial Canine diet

	3.3	Describe the essential nutrients required in a dog's diet, including proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals
4. Understand the BARF concept	4.1	Describe the meaning of BARF
	4.2	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of raw feeding Canines
	4.3	Explain how to meet nutritional needs when raw feeding Canines
5. Understand home cooked diets for Canines	5.1	Describe how health and safety requirements can be met when giving homemade diets
	5.2	Describe the nutrition of homemade diets
	5.3	Explain the advantages and disadvantages of homemade diets
	5.4	Explain when supplements are necessary in a Canine diet and how these can be provided

Canine Lifestyle Nutrition	
Unit Reference	A/650/9189
Level	3
Credit Value	9
Guided Learning (GL)	80
Unit Summary	<p>Within this unit, Learners will explore the nutrition and feeding requirements of Canines in different life stages. The unit will also provide knowledge of energy calculations and how to carry these out to ensure the correct nutritional constitution of the diet for optimal health and wellbeing.</p> <p>This unit is a knowledge-based unit, with no physical requirements.</p>
Learning Outcomes (1 to 6)	Assessment Criteria (1.1 to 6.2)
The learner will	The learner can
1. Know the nutritional requirements of pregnant and lactating Canines	1.1 Explain the changes required in pregnant and lactating Canines' diets 1.2 Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of supplementing a pregnant or lactating Canine diet
2. Know the nutritional requirements of puppies	2.1 Explain the nutritional requirements of puppies from birth to weaning 2.2 Describe how to provide food and nutrition to puppies from birth to weaning
3. Know the nutritional requirements of senior Canines and beyond	3.1 Describe the nutritional requirements of senior and geriatric Canines 3.2 Analyse common conditions of senior and geriatric Canines related to diet 3.3 Explain how to provide food to senior and geriatric Canines to encourage eating

<p>4. Know the nutritional requirements of working and sporting Canines</p>	<p>4.1 4.2 4.3</p>	<p>Evaluate the dietary requirements of working and sporting Canines</p> <p>Describe the potential issues with not providing a correct diet, nutrition and feed timings to working and sporting Canines</p>
<p>5. Know the nutritional requirements of ill, injured and recovering Canines</p>	<p>5.1 5.2</p>	<p>Analyse the nutritional and feeding requirements of ill, injured and recovering Canines</p> <p>Explain the impact that nutrition and diet can have upon illness, injury and recovery</p>
<p>6. Understand energy requirement calculations for Canines</p>	<p>6.1 6.2</p>	<p>Describe how to calculate the BER and BMR for Canines</p> <p>Explain the effects of life stage on energy requirements for Canines</p>

Canine Diet Effects on Behaviour and Welfare

Unit Reference	H/650/9190	
Level	3	
Credit Value	8	
Guided Learning (GL)	70	
Unit Summary	<p>The focus of this unit is the impact that Canine diet has on health, behaviour and welfare. This includes common diet-related conditions, behaviours related to feeding and the components that may have impact upon health and behaviour.</p> <p>This unit is a knowledge-based unit, with no physical requirements.</p>	
Learning Outcomes (1 to 3)	Assessment Criteria (1.1 to 3.2)	
The learner will	The learner can	
1. Know the effects of Canine diet on health and welfare	1.1	Analyse the link between nutrition, obesity and malnutrition in Canines
	1.2	Evaluate the health issues associated with obesity and malnutrition in Canines
	1.3	Explain the importance of providing a balanced diet for Canines
	1.4	Explain how nutrition is related to coat health in Canines
2. Understand the effects of Canine diet on behaviour	2.1	Evaluate the use of preservatives and additives in Canine diets and the effects on behaviour
	2.2	Explain how Canine behaviour can be managed using diet
	2.3	Explain the use of nutraceuticals and behavioural supplements in Canines

	2.4	Evaluate the use of food as a training aid for Canines including the adjustment of rations due to treat intake
3. Know how legislation impacts upon canine food production	3.1	Evaluate the impact of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 on feeding Canines
	3.2	Describe legislation, codes of practice and guidelines relating to Canine food production

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), Exemptions, Credit Transfers and Equivalencies

Skills and Education Group Awards 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 Skills and Education Group Awards 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 Skills and Education Group Awards 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 Skills and Education Group Awards.
 - > 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** – Skills and Education Group Awards 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.

Skills and Education Group Awards encourages its centres to recognise the previous achievements of learners through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), Exemption, Credit Transfer and Equivalencies. 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 Skills and Education Group Awards Qualifications' which can be downloaded from skillsandeducationgroupawards.co.uk/for-centres

Certification

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

Skills and Education Group Awards' policies and procedures are available on the website.

Exemptions

This qualification contains no exemptions. For further details see Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), Exemptions, Credit Transfers and Equivalencies.

Glossary of Terms

GL (Guided Learning)

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 qualification level and not unit/component 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 Guided Learning (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.