



Qualification Specification for:

OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care

➤ **Qualification No: 603/5553/0**

Qualification Regulation Information

OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care

Qualification Number: 603/5553/0

Operational start date: 15 February 2020

Operational end date: 31 January 2025

Certification end date: 31 January 2027

Qualification operational start and end dates indicate the lifecycle of a regulated qualification. The operational end date is the last date by which learners can be registered on a qualification. Learners have up to 2 years after this date to complete the qualification and claim their certificate.

All OCN NI regulated qualifications are published to the Register of Regulated Qualifications (<http://register.ofqual.gov.uk>). This site shows the qualifications and awarding organisations regulated by CCEA Regulation and Ofqual.

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Foreword

This document explains OCN NI's requirements for the delivery and assessment of the following regulated qualifications:

→ **OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care**

This specification sets out:

- Qualification features
- Centre requirements for delivering and assessing the qualifications
- The structure and content of the qualifications
- Unit Details
- Assessment requirements for the qualification
- OCN NI's quality assurance arrangements for the qualifications
- Administration

OCN NI will notify centres in writing of any major changes to this specification. We will also publish changes on our website at www.ocni.org.uk

This specification is provided online, so the version available on our website is the most up to date publication. It is important to note that copies of the specification that have been downloaded and printed may be different from this authoritative online version.

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About Regulation

OCN NI

Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCN NI) is a regulated Awarding Organisation based in Northern Ireland. OCN NI is regulated by CCEA Regulation to develop and award professional and technical (vocational) qualifications from Entry Level up to and including Level 5 across all sector areas. In addition, OCN NI is regulated by Ofqual to award similar qualification types in England.

The Regulated Qualifications Framework: an overview

The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) was introduced on 1st October 2015: the RQF provides a single framework for all regulated qualifications.

Qualification Level

The level indicates the difficulty and complexity of the knowledge and skills associated with any qualification. There are eight levels (Levels 1-8) supported by three 'entry' levels (Entry 1-3).

Qualification Size

Size refers to the estimated total amount of time it could typically take to study and be assessed for a qualification. Size is expressed in terms of Total Qualification Time (TQT), and the part of that time typically spent being taught or supervised, rather than studying alone, is known as Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

Qualification Features

Sector Subject Area

1.3 Health and social care

This qualification relates to the following National Occupational Standards:

[NOS - End of Life Care](#)

Qualification Aim

The aim of the OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care is to provide an understanding of the principles and processes involved in end of life care.

Qualification Objectives

The objectives of the OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care are to develop an understanding of how to sensitively and appropriately care for individuals in the final stages of life, including:

- an awareness of different perspectives on death and dying
- an understanding the aims, principles and policies of end of life care
- an understanding of appropriate communication in end of life care
- knowing how to access end of life care support services and facilities

Grading

Grading for this qualification is pass/fail.

Qualification Target Group

The OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care is particularly suitable for those who are currently working or who wish to work in the health and social care sector, in the area of end of life care. This qualification may be of interest to health and social care roles which may include the following: health residential, domiciliary care and palliative care.

Progression Opportunities

The OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care will enable learners to progress to other Level 2 Health and Social Care qualifications or higher-level qualifications within the health and social care sector.

Entry Requirements

Learners must be at least 16 years of age and have experience or an interest in working in the area of end of life care.

Qualification Support

A Qualification Support pack is available for OCN NI centres within the login area of the OCN NI website (<https://www.ocnni.org.uk/my-account/>), which includes additional support for teachers, eg planning and assessment templates, guides to best practice, etc.

Delivery Languages

These qualifications are available in English only at this time. If you wish to offer the qualifications in Welsh or Irish (Gaeilge) then please contact OCN NI who will review demand and provide as appropriate.

Centre Requirements for Delivering the Qualification

Centre Recognition and Qualification Approval

New and existing OCN NI recognised centres must apply for and be granted approval to deliver these qualifications prior to the commencement of delivery.

Centre Staffing

Centres are required to have the following roles in place as a minimum, although a member of staff may hold more than one role*:

- Centre contact
- Programme co-ordinator
- Assessor
- Internal Verifier

*Note: A person cannot be an internal verifier for any evidence they have assessed.

Centres must ensure that staff delivering, assessing and internally verifying qualifications are both qualified to teach in Northern Ireland and competent to do so.

Tutors

Tutors delivering the qualification should be occupationally competent, qualified to at least one level higher than the qualification and have a minimum of one year's experience in the health and social care sector.

Assessors

The qualifications are assessed within the centre and are subject to OCN NI's quality assurance processes. Units are achieved through internally set, internally assessed, and internally verified evidence.

Assessors must:

- be occupationally competent in the subject area and qualified to at least one level higher than the qualification
- have a minimum of one year's experience in the health and social care sector
- have direct or related relevant experience in assessment
- assess all assessment tasks and activities

Internal Verification

OCN NI qualifications must be scrutinised through the centre's internal quality assurance processes as part of the recognised centre agreement with OCN NI. The centre must appoint an experienced and trained internal verifier whose responsibility is to act as the internal quality monitor for the verification of the delivery and assessment of the qualifications.

The centre must agree a working model for internal verification with OCN NI prior to delivery of the qualification.

Internal Verifiers must:

- have at least one year's occupational experience in the areas they are internally verifying
- attend OCN NI's internal verifier training if not already completed

Internal verifiers are required to:

- support tutors and assessors
- sample assessments according to the centre's sampling strategy
- ensure tasks are appropriate to the level being assessed
- maintain up-to-date records supporting the verification of assessment and learner achievement

Structure and Content

OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care

To achieve the OCN NI Level 2 Award in End of Life Care learners must successfully complete the one unit – 3 credits.

Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification: 30 hours
 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) for this qualification: 28 hours

Unit Reference Number	OCN NI Unit Code	Unit Title	Credit Value	TQT	GLH	Level
H/617/9503	CBE853	Working in End of Life Care	3	30	28	Two

Unit Details

Title	Working in End of Life Care
Level	Two
Credit Value	3
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	28
OCN NI Unit Code	CBE853
Unit Reference No	H/617/9503
<i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable the learner to understand end of life care including the aims, principles, policies, communication and support services.	
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
1. Be aware of different perspectives on death and dying.	1.1. Describe at least three factors that may affect an individual's views on death and dying and how this may inform own practice. 1.2. Describe at least three factors that may affect own views on death and dying and how this may inform own practice. 1.3. Describe how the attitudes of others may influence an individual's choices around death and dying.
2. Understand the aims, principles and policies of end of life care.	2.1. Summarise the aims and principles of end of life care including advance care planning. 2.2. Describe why it is important to support an individual in a way that promotes their dignity. 2.3. Describe the importance of maintaining comfort and well-being in end of life care. 2.4. Illustrate the key stages of the local end of life care pathway. 2.5. Summarise local and national policy and guidance for care after death.
3. Understand appropriate communication in end of life care.	3.1. Summarise how an individual's priorities and the ability to communicate may vary over time. 3.2. Describe the practitioner's role in responding to key questions and cues from individuals and others regarding their end of life experience. 3.3. Describe how a practitioner should respond to difficult questions from individuals and others regarding end of life care. 3.4. Outline strategies to manage emotional responses from individuals and others. 3.5. Describe the importance of sharing appropriate information according to the principles and local policy on confidentiality and data protection.

<p>4. Know how to access end of life care support services and facilities.</p>	<p>4.1. Summarise local support services and facilities available to an individual and others. 4.2. Identify the key people who may be involved within a multi-disciplinary end of life care team. 4.3. Summarise potential barriers an individual may face when accessing end of life care and how these may be minimised.</p>	
<p>Assessment Guidance</p>		
<p>The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.</p>		
Assessment Method	Definition	Possible Content
<p>Portfolio of evidence</p>	<p>A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes OR A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course</p>	<p>Learner notes/written work Learner log/diary Peer notes Record of observation Record of discussion</p>
<p>Coursework</p>	<p>Research or projects that count towards a learner's final outcome and demonstrate the skills and/or knowledge gained throughout the course</p>	<p>Record of observation Learner notes/written work Tutor notes/record Learner log/diary</p>

Quality Assurance of Centre Performance

External Verification

All OCN NI recognised centres are subject to External Verification. External verification visits and monitoring activities will be conducted annually to confirm continued compliance with the conditions of recognition, review the centre's risk rating for the qualification and to assure OCN NI of the maintenance of the integrity of the qualification.

The External Verifier will review the delivery and assessment of this qualification. This will include the review of a sample of assessment evidence and evidence of the internal verification of assessment and assessment decisions. This will form the basis of the External Verification report and will inform OCN NI's annual assessment of centre compliance and risk. The External Verifier is appointed by OCN NI.

Standardisation

As a process, standardisation is designed to ensure consistency and promote good practice in understanding and the application of standards. Standardisation events:

- make qualified statements about the level of consistency in assessment across centres delivering a qualification
- make statements on the standard of evidence that is required to meet the assessment criteria for units in a qualification
- make recommendations on assessment practice
- produce advice and guidance for the assessment of units
- identify good practice in assessment and internal verification

Centres offering units of an OCN NI qualification must attend and contribute assessment materials and learner evidence for standardisation events if requested.

OCN NI will notify centres of the nature of sample evidence required for standardisation events (this will include assessment materials, learner evidence and relevant assessor and internal verifier documentation). OCN NI will make standardisation summary reports available and correspond directly with centres regarding event outcomes.

Administration

Registration

A centre must register learners within 20 working days of commencement of a qualification.

Certification

Certificates will be issued to centres within 20 working days of receipt of correctly completed results marksheets. It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure that certificates received from OCN NI are held securely and distributed to learners promptly and securely.

Charges

OCN NI publishes all up to date qualification fees in its Fees and Invoicing Policy document. Further information can be found on the centre login area of the OCN NI website.

Equality, Fairness and Inclusion

OCN NI has considered the requirements of equalities legislation in developing the specification for these qualifications. For further information and guidance relating to access to fair assessment and the OCN NI Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations policies, centres should refer to the OCN NI website.

Retention of Evidence

OCN NI has published guidance for centres on the retention of evidence. Details are provided in the OCN NI Centre Handbook and can be accessed via the OCN NI website.

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