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> [Further and higher education courses and qualifications](#)
> [Expected post-16 level 3 qualifications for 2025](#)



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for Education](#)

Transparency data

Post-16 level 3 qualifications from 2025: early indication for providers

Applies to England

Contents

[Total numbers](#)

[Breakdown of technical qualifications](#)

 [Print this page](#)

All level 3 alternative academic and technical qualifications must [get new approval for funding](#) from 2025.

The following data gives an early indication of how many of these qualifications awarding organisations intend to submit for approval for the 2025 to 2026 academic year.

It applies to the first of two approval cycles. In this cycle, we will approve academic and technical qualifications in subjects in these occupational routes:

- Construction and the built environment
- Digital
- Education and early years
- Engineering and manufacturing
- Health and science

We asked awarding organisations to register their intent to submit qualifications. The results indicate the number and type of qualifications that will be submitted for approval.

A registration of intent only indicates that an awarding organisation intends to submit an application. It does not represent a submission. Submission is also not a guarantee of approval.

Awarding organisations can submit these qualifications for approval from 3 July 2023 to 31 July 2023. We have advised awarding organisations to continue to engage, and share information, with providers to ensure qualification demand and coverage is reflected in their submissions.

We will provide a further update in September with the number of qualifications submitted for approval.

Total numbers

This table summarises the small alternative academic qualifications and technical qualifications that awarding organisations intend to submit.

Small alternative academic qualifications are up to the size of an A level, to be taken alongside A levels as part of mixed study programmes.

Technical qualifications assess the skills needed to enter or progress in the workplace. These can be delivered in a classroom environment. Some will also include workplace learning and assessment.

Expected sector subject area classification	Aligned occupational route	Small alternative academic qualifications	Technical qualifications
Building and construction	Construction and the built environment	5 or fewer	27
Child development and wellbeing	Education and early years	5 or fewer	30
Engineering	Engineering and manufacturing	9	48
Health and social care	Health and science	14	0
ICT practitioners	Digital	15	23
Medicine and dentistry or nursing, and subjects and vocations allied to medicine	Health and science	5 or fewer	0

Science	Health and science	22	123
Teaching and lecturing	Education and early years	5 or fewer	0

Breakdown of technical qualifications

This table separates the technical qualifications which awarding organisations intend to submit into 3 categories.

Occupational entry qualifications for 16 to 19 and adults aim to support students to enter, or progress within, a role. They will only be funded at 16 to 19 where they do not overlap with a T Level.

Occupational entry qualifications for adults only will support entry to occupations, including those that are served by T Levels and those that are not.

They may include qualifications where:

- there is no current standard for the aligned occupation
- it may not be appropriate to develop an occupational standard

Additional specialist qualifications for 16 to 19 and adults allow a student to develop additional knowledge and competencies and specialise within a sector.

They will build on knowledge covered by a T Level or other occupational entry qualification. For example low-carbon construction design may build on the Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction T Level.

Expected sector subject area classification	Aligned occupational route	Occupational entry - 16 to 19 and adults	Occupational entry - adults only	Additional specialist - 16 to 19 and adults
Building and construction	Construction and the built environment	8	13	6
Child	Education and	5 or fewer	12	17

development and wellbeing	early years			
Engineering	Engineering and manufacturing	18	10	20
ICT practitioners	Digital	5 or fewer	13	8
Science	Health and science	41	12	70

[↑ Back to top](#)

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[Transparency](#)

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