



Frequently
Asked Questions

Qualifications and Progression

What's the difference between the L7 Certificate and the L7 Diploma?

/// The main difference between these two qualifications is that the Diploma also includes skin boosters.

Can learners start at Level 5 if they already hold a Level 4 in laser/micropigmentation?

/// No. These are different pathways — the Level 4 must be in advanced aesthetics.

Does the Access to Aesthetics course count as a Level 4 pre-requisite?

/// Yes, this qualification enables progression without the learner completing a full level 2 and 3 beauty therapy programme.

Can learners skip levels if they have experience?

/// No, these are different pathways so although they already have a level 4, this does not include the skills, knowledge or techniques required for the aesthetics pathway. Refer to the [pathway map for guidance](#).

/// Can you RPL from other awarding bodies?

Yes, but only if the qualification is Ofqual regulated (CPD/accredited courses won't be considered).

Centre Delivery & Staffing

What's the difference between the L7 Certificate and the L7 Diploma?

/// The main difference between these two qualifications is that the Diploma also includes skin boosters.

What qualifications do tutors need to deliver Level 7?

/// A minimum of a Level 5 teaching qualification (or working towards it), plus a regulated L7 qualification and assessor/IQA qualifications.

Do we need a prescriber to deliver Level 7?

/// Yes, and from 1st June 2025, prescribing must be done face-to-face.

Do we need an assessor and IQA with medical registration?

/// No, they do not need to be medics — but the prescriber must be.

Is there a cost for the initial meeting?

/// No, the first centre readiness check with the Key Account Manager is free.

Qualification Content, Delivery & Funding

How do VTCT Skills qualifications compare to others?

/// The VTCT Skills qualifications are designed to and align with professional frameworks and the National Occupational Standards; are up to date and include more units and modalities.

Can we offer Level 4 and Level 5 alongside each other?

/// No - Level 5 requires prior completion of Level 4.

Can learners who completed L7 elsewhere upgrade to the VTCT Skills Diploma?

/// Yes, if the prior L7 was regulated. RPL can be applied.

Are these qualifications funded?

/// Not currently. VTCT Skills will apply for funding when the gateway reopens, potentially by 2027.

Are they available and insurable in Ireland?

/// This depends on local laws. In Ireland, only doctors and dentists can legally deliver certain treatments.

Are these NVQs?

/// No. These are regulated qualifications, but not NVQs.

Approval checklist

That you hold the right qualifications and can provide certificates

/// Your evidence must cover all of the modalities within the qualification specification that you are applying for approval for. You may have regulated and CPD qualifications. CPD will need to be upskilled to regulated within 18 months of commencing delivery.

You have a qualified Assessor

/// See above, in addition, they must hold a regulated assessors certificate.

You have an Internal Quality Assessor

/// Your IQA hold a Level 7 Certificate in the specific modalities included within the qualification content or alternatively be able to demonstrate ongoing professional development through detailed CPD treatment logs

Scheme of Work and Resources

/// Your scheme of work can be provided on your own template. It must demonstrate the delivery of all content as per the specification along with clear assessment timelines and meet the GLH of the qualification.

Relevant Policies and Procedures

/// See the list below for the policies that we will require. All six must be uploaded as part of the approval process for it to progress.

Approval checklist

Premises

/// You must have a premises in which the delivery will take place which meets health and hygiene standards and our resources requirements.

For Level 7: you'll need to have a prescriber

/// From the 1st of June 2025, your prescriber must meet with your models for face-to-face consultations.

You will also need to have these Mandatory Policies in place

Malpractice

/// Your processes if an incident of malpractice takes place and how you will mitigate risks.

Complaints

/// How your training centre will manage complaints and the process that will be followed internally.

Equality and Diversity

/// How you will ensure that every learner is treated equally and diversity is considered.

Health and Safety

/// How you will manage the health and safety of your premises, visitors, clients, models and your staff. This should include how you will mitigate risks.

Approval checklist

Conflict of Interest

/// How you will ensure that quality and standards are upheld.

Appeals

/// How you will manage, process and respond to assessment appeals.

Learner Induction

/// Learner induction packs must be included in your application. This should include reference to the above policies, assessment schedule and where appropriate, a scheme of work overview and timelines for delivery, assessment and completion.