

NQF ESOL Skills for Life withdrawal procedure

Trinity has revised its suite of ESOL Skills for Life (SfL) qualifications. The revised qualifications sit on the Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF), unlike the original qualifications which are on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). The revised exams are registered with Ofqual under new qualification codes and the current NQF qualifications are being discontinued.

This document describes Trinity's withdrawal plan for the following NQF SfL qualifications:

4-skills qualifications	Speaking and listening qualifications
Entry 1 - 100/4266/0	Entry 1 - 100/4513/2
Entry 2 - 100/4267/2	Entry 2 - 100/4514/4
Entry 3 - 100/4268/4	Entry 3 - 100/4515/6
Level 1 - 100/4269/6	Level 1 - 100/4516/8
Level 2 - 100/4270/2	Level 2 - 100/4517/X

NB Trinity's Step 1 and 2 qualifications continue to be offered as before.

NQF Qualification end date

- Final enrolments for the qualifications must be made by 31 December 2014.
- The final exam date for sitting the Reading and Writing units is 25 March 2015.
- The final exam date for sitting the Speaking and Listening unit is 30 April 2015.
- The certification end date is 31 December 2015 – this is to allow time for any appeal candidates to re-sit the Speaking and listening unit and gain their overall qualification (see below).
- Enrolment for the new qualifications is from 5 January 2015 and the first exam sessions are from 2 February 2015.

NB There is a three month overlap period when both versions of the qualifications will be conducted, however only candidates registered on Trinity Online by 31 December 2014 will be able to take the old exams – this decision is informed by Ofqual rulings and SFA funding arrangements.

Re-sits

Candidates who fail any unit of the NQF qualification and wish to enrol to retake the unit after the final enrolment deadline of 31 December 2014, will have to enrol for and sit the new QCF unit. (NB This doesn't effect a learner's ability to gain an overarching 4-skills qualification – see below).

Appeal candidates

Candidates who raise an appeal about an NQF unit and have the appeal upheld, will be entitled to the following:

- For the Reading and Writing units, the candidates' scripts will be remarked and their original test scores will be adjusted according to Trinity's remarking procedures and a certificate issued.
- For the Speaking and Listening unit, the candidate will be offered the opportunity to take the Speaking and Listening unit of the NQF qualification or, if they prefer, the QCF unit. They must retake the NQF unit within three months of the appeal decision. They will be eligible to retake a QCF unit for 12 months from the appeal decision.

Recognition of prior achievement

In order that students' progress to date can be recognised, the following arrangements have been agreed:

- Trinity will accept its old NQF units as recognised prior achievement towards its new 4-skills QCF qualification - ie candidates who have passed an old NQF unit can present it to qualify for an exemption from the equivalent new QCF unit.
- Trinity will also recognise and accept NQF units gained from Cambridge English Language Assessment in the same way.
- All units, whether NQF or QCF, must be achieved within three years in order to qualify for the overarching 4-skills qualification.

NB New QCF units cannot be used towards gaining an overarching NQF qualification.