

NCFE T LEVEL HEALTH

STUDENT GUIDE



Student Name:

Introduction

The NCFE T Level Health aims to provide you with a broad understanding of the healthcare sector along with the skills and knowledge that are most relevant to your future career in health. The qualification has a duration of two years, and it is assessed through a wide variety of methods.

For example, assessment methods include:

- Exams
- Reports
- Presentations
- Role plays
- Simulated clinical skills
- Professional discussions

In addition to time spent learning in school or college, you will spend a minimum of 315 hours of time in placement where you will be able to gain hands-on practical experience, working alongside professionals in real healthcare settings.

Who is this course for?

The NCFE T Level Health course is ideal for anyone who is passionate about healthcare and interested in pursuing a career in this important field. This course is suitable if you have a strong desire to help others, are keen on developing good communication skills and are interested in science and health-related subjects. When you have completed the course you will have a range of progression options, including moving on to studying at university in fields such as nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy and other healthcare-related degrees. Alternatively, the course opens up work opportunities in roles such as healthcare assistant, support worker and other entry-level positions within the health and social care sector. This qualification gives you all the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in both higher education and professional healthcare environments.

What will I study?

Your qualification is split into two component parts:

1 Core Components A and B and Core Skills

This is usually completed in the first year of your qualification

2 Occupational Specialism Component

This is usually completed in the second year of your qualification

How is this qualification is graded?

- For the Core Component, you will be given one overall grade, from A* to E (or ungraded).
- For the Occupational Specialism Component, you are graded Distinction/Merit/Pass (or ungraded).
- At the end of the course, your grades for each of the components will be compiled to calculate your final grade. You will receive either a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*

If you wish to progress to university, UCAS tariff points will be allocated to your T Level, which you can check here:



Core Component A

This component consists of four sections:

Section A	Section B	Section C	Section D
Working in the healthcare sector	Managing personal information and data in the health sector	Health and safety in the healthcare sector	Person centred care in the healthcare sector

You will develop an understanding of:

- Working in the health and science sector
- Health, safety and environmental regulations
- Managing information and data
- Principles of good scientific and clinical practice
- Infection prevention and control
- Person-centred care
- Health and wellbeing
- Safeguarding



How will I be assessed?

- Core component A is externally assessed by a written examination (2 hours 30 minutes)
- The question types are both short answer and extended writing questions
- The paper is split into 4 sections, (as above) and is worth 104 marks plus an additional 12 marks for Quality of Written Communication (QWC) giving 116 marks in total

What is Quality of Written Communication?

Quality of Written Communication (QWC) is an important aspect of your written examinations.

In Core A, **one** question in each section of the paper includes an additional 3 marks specifically for QWC, giving you the opportunity to gain an extra 12 marks in total.

In Core B, **two** questions in each section of the paper includes an additional 3 marks specifically for QWC, giving you the opportunity to gain an extra 18 marks in total.

To secure these marks, your answer must be clearly expressed and well-structured. This means ensuring that within your answer the overall meaning is effectively conveyed throughout your response by using grammar effectively. Additionally, you should incorporate a wide range of appropriate technical terms in your response to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the subject. Achieving high marks in QWC requires careful attention to how you communicate your ideas, ensuring they are presented in a logical, coherent, and precise manner.



Core Component B Science Concepts

This component is split into two sections:

Section B1

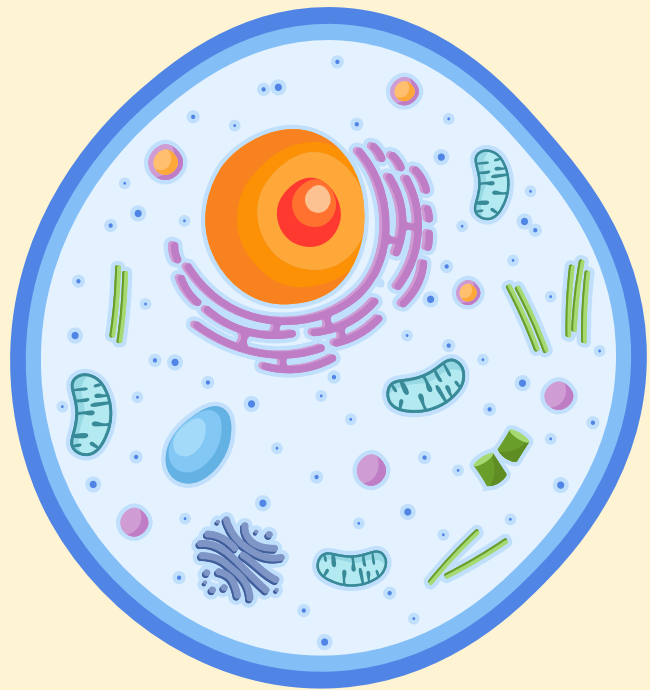
Core Science
Concepts

Section B2

Further Science Concepts
in Health

You will develop an understanding of:

- Cells and the cell cycle
- Molecules and enzymes
- Exchange and transport mechanisms (includes calculation of SA:Vol ratio)
- Genetics
- Immunology (includes calculating magnification)
- Epidemiology and health promotion
- Homeostasis and physiological measurements
- Classification of diseases and disorders
- Particles and radiation
- Units (includes performing conversions)
- The structure, function and disorders of:
 - Musculoskeletal system
 - Cardiovascular system
 - Respiratory system
 - Digestive system
 - Endocrine system
 - Nervous system
 - Renal system
 - Integumentary system
 - Reproductive system
- Cancer



How will I be assessed?

- Core component B is externally assessed by a written examination (2 hours 30 minutes)
- The question types are multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions
- The paper is split into 3 sections and is worth 100 marks (including 6-10 marks for maths) plus an additional 18 marks for Quality of Written Communication (QWC) giving 118 marks in total
- You are permitted to use a calculator in this exam but must show your working out

Why are there marks for maths?

Numeracy skills are essential in healthcare because they enable you to perform a wide range of critical tasks accurately. These tasks include calculating medication dosages, interpreting data from charts and graphs, taking measurements such as blood pressure and temperature and understanding statistical information relevant to patient care.

Good numeracy skills means that you can make precise calculations, reducing the risk of errors and enhancing patient safety. Additionally, they help you understand and use medical data effectively, which is important for making good decisions and providing high-quality care. Mastering these skills not only boosts your performance in the examination but also prepares you for a career in healthcare, where accuracy and attention to detail are so crucial.



Core Skills

There are six Core Skills that you must develop during the first year of your qualification. These are assessed through the **Employer Set Project (ESP)**.

The Employer Set Project (ESP) requires you to apply your knowledge and understanding to real-life scenarios to demonstrate six core skills:

- Communication
- Person-centred care
- Teamworking
- Reflective evaluation
- Researching
- Presenting



How will I be assessed?

- This is an **externally set and marked** controlled assessment and is carried out under supervised conditions.
- A total of 16 hours 30 minutes is allocated to the assessment of this element
- A total of 100 marks is available overall

You will be provided with a case study of an individual and you must:

- Research their condition and write a report detailing how best to support them in their situation
- Participate in a role play focusing on your chosen individual, which is video recorded
- Create a healthcare plan for your chosen individual
- Discuss the plan with your peers to collect feedback on your healthcare plan
- Produce a presentation to your tutor, which is video recorded
- Complete a reflective account



Occupational Specialism Component

In the second year of your T Level Health course, you will focus on the Occupational Specialism Component.

This comprises:

Either the Dental Nursing pathway; or

Supporting Healthcare Core Component, plus one of the following depending on what is offered by your school or college:

- Supporting the Adult Nursing Team
- Supporting the Midwifery Team
- Supporting the Mental Health Team
- Supporting the Care of Children and Young People
- Supporting the Therapy teams



How will I be assessed?

The Occupational Specialism component is assessed through three, synoptic, task-based assignments in which you will be required to demonstrate your specialist knowledge and understanding.

Assessment 1: Case Study Assessment (CSA)

- This is based on occupational specialism and is externally set and marked
- It is completed in supervised conditions
- A total of 80 marks is available overall

For this assessment you are provided with a case study and four linked tasks to complete. You are required to demonstrate both knowledge and skills, and tasks may include completing patient records, writing reports, planning patient activities or discussions, reviewing guidelines, recommendations or patient plans.

Assessment 2:

Practical Assessment Activity (PAA) - Supporting Healthcare Core

Practical Assessment Activity (PAA) - Occupational Specialism

- This is based on occupational specialism and is externally set, internally marked and externally moderated
- It is completed in supervised conditions
- A total of 136 marks is available overall

For this assessment you will demonstrate your clinical and care skills in a simulated situation which is video recorded. For example, you might be tasked with taking a patient history, or demonstrating an infection control technique, or how to calibrate and use equipment.

Assessment 3: Professional Discussion Assessment (PDA)

- This is based on occupational specialism and is externally set and marked
- It is completed in supervised conditions
- A total of 96 marks is available overall

For this assessment, you will have a professional discussion with your tutor, which is video recorded. You will reflect on the knowledge, skills and experience that you have developed over the duration of your course.

Industry Placement

During your T Level in Health course, you will be required to complete at least 315 practice placement hours within a health-related industry placement setting. Where possible, your placement setting will be relevant to your occupational specialism and will focus on developing up-to-date technical skills and specialist knowledge.

During your placement you will have the opportunity to contextualise and apply your learning in the classroom to real-life health settings. You will observe practice but also develop the foundations of the practical and technical skills that are required to work in a healthcare environment.

While you are on placement you will need to keep a record of your experiences.

Where might my placement take place?

Examples of different types of placements settings include:

- NHS trust hospital
- Day centres
- Care/nursing homes
- Supported/assisted living schemes
- Wellbeing services
- Respite centres
- Local authority social care provision
- Rehabilitation services

