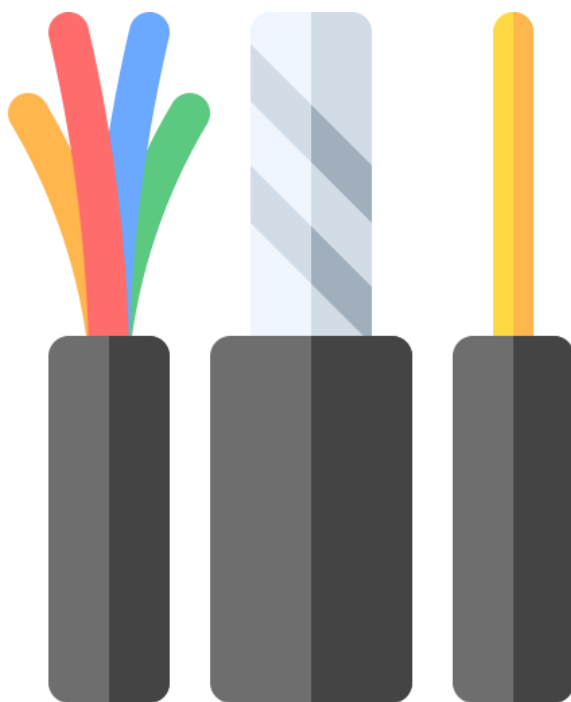




openawards

Open Awards Level 3 Award in Advanced Polarisation Mode Dispersion and Chromatic Dispersion Testing (RQF)

Code 603/7802/5



QUALIFICATION GUIDE

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About the Qualification

Title	Open Awards Level 3 Award in Advanced Polarisation Mode Dispersion and Chromatic Dispersion Testing (RQF)
QAN	603/7803/7
Sector	6 Information and Communication Technology
Level	Level 3
Funding	Please click here for more information
Pricing Information	Please click here for more information
Review Date	30/08/2026

Ofqual Purpose	Prepare for employment in a broad occupational area
Ofqual Sub-Purpose	Develop Knowledge and/or Skills in a Subject Area

Age Range and Restrictions:	
Pre -16	x
16 – 18	x
18+	✓
Any other restrictions specific to the qualification(s)	None

Any specified entry requirements
<p>This qualification is suitable for learners aged 18+</p> <p>Learners should have a good standard of English and Maths (i.e. GCSE/Functional Skills).</p> <p>Due to the nature of the qualification learners should be 18 at the time of registration for the qualification.</p>

Recommended Assessment Method Summary

Learners will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence set and marked by the education provider and externally quality assured by Open Awards.

Candidates must provide sufficient evidence that they have the required knowledge, skills and understanding of the assessment criteria and that it is their own work.

Types of evidence could include:

- a) Observation of performance
- b) Questioning (written or oral)
- c) Practical Activities
- d) Photographs or videos
- e) Personal statements
- f) Project work/written work
- g) Witness testimonies
- h) Group discussion
- i) Recognition of Prior Learning

Assessment practices must reflect the Equality and Diversity Policy of Open Awards.

Recommended Equipment List

In order to deliver this qualification unit, centres will need to have/have access to the following equipment for every **six (6)** learners in the group:

- Sample traces from real fibre systems
- CD and PMD test equipment or equivalent test system emulation software
- Suitable fibre test systems and accessories

Qualification Units

Rules of Combination	
Award	
Credit Value of the Qualification	5
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification	5
Mandatory Units A	5

Mandatory Group A

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
K/618/8302	Advanced Polarisation Mode Dispersion and Chromatic Dispersion Testing	5	Level Three

Delivering this Qualification

Becoming a Centre

To deliver this qualification you must be a recognised Open Awards centre. For more information, head to our website or contact the team on 0151 494 2072

How to Deliver

You can deliver this qualification by completing a [New Qualification Request Form](#) via the Open Awards portal. For more information, see the Centre Handbook, or contact the team on 0151 494 2072.

Registering Learners

Once you are ready to deliver this qualification, you will need to register your learners in line with the timescales below:

Short courses (15 weeks or less) within 25 working days of the course start date.
Full year long courses (over 15 weeks) within 60 working days of the course start date.

You will need to register your learners via the Open Awards [portal](#).

Quality Assurance and Standardisation

Delivery of this qualification must be done so in accordance with Ofqual regulatory guidelines and in line with Open Awards' quality assurance processes. Template forms and guidance documents are available via the Open Awards portal.

Centre Staff Requirements

Centres are responsible for ensuring that their staff are suitably skilled and experienced. Tutors/ assessors and internal quality assurance (IQA) staff must have relevant occupational knowledge and/or occupational competence at the same level or higher as the units being delivered.

Centres are responsible for notifying Open Awards of staff changes.

Training and support

Open Awards offers training and support events in Delivery & Assessment and Quality Assurance. These events are held throughout the year. Such events will also provide an opportunity to identify and share best practice. Up to date details of these training events are on our [website](#).

Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)

All centres delivering Open Awards provision must operate rigorous internal quality assurance systems. A centre must identify how they will internally quality assure and standardise their delivery and assessment before delivering a course.

External Quality Assurance (EQA)

Centre approval compliance monitoring and external quality assurance is carried out by Open Awards' Lead Quality Reviewers/External Quality Assurers who will

confirm that the centre is assessing to standard and ensure that there are robust quality assurance systems embedded.

Please refer to Internal and External Quality Assurance within the Centre Handbook.

Standardisation

Centres are required to contribute to national standardisation as requested by Open Awards. Open Awards offers Standardisation events that are held throughout the year. Such events will also provide an opportunity to identify and share best practice. Up to date details of training and standardisation events can be found on our website.

Further guidance on Quality Assurance and Standardisation please refer to the [Centre Handbook](#)

Recognition of Prior Learning and Achievement (RPL)

RPL is a method of assessment that considers whether a learner can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills they may already possess. Evidence of learning must be sufficient, reliable and valid.

It is the responsibility of the centre to inform Open Awards at registration of any exemptions and/or equivalences for which a claim may be made. These claims will be subject to external verification by the Open Awards' Lead Quality Reviewer for the centre.

For more information, please see our Recognition of Prior Learning Policy found on the Open Awards [portal](#).

Health and Safety

Due to the practical requirements of some of the units within this qualification, centres must ensure that appropriate risk assessments are in place for both the activities and individual learners to ensure the learners and staff safety throughout the course. As part of this, centres must ensure that learners and staff have access to appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE).

Appendices and Links

Appendix Name
Centre Handbook
Enquiries, Complaints and Appeals Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
Invoicing Policy
Privacy Policy

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Open Awards
17 De Havilland Drive,
Estuary Commerce Park
Speke
Liverpool
L24 8N

0151 494 2072

enquiries@openawards.org.uk

www.openawards.org.uk

@openawards