



**iPET Network**

**Level 2 Award in Principles of  
Equine Emergency First Aid  
Qualification Number - 610/1731/0**

**Qualification Specification**



## **iPET Network**

**LED BY INDUSTRY EXPERTS.**

**DRIVEN BY PASSION.**

**BOUND BY ANIMALS.**

**GUIDED BY CANDIDATES.**

**UNITED BY iPET NETWORK.**

### **Our Mission**

#### **EDUCATION FOR PEOPLE, FOR PETS, FOR THE FUTURE**

**To be the Awarding Organisation of choice for Training Providers, Employers and Learners in the Animal Care and Veterinary Science Sector.**

We demand the highest standard of practice to ensure our suite of qualifications work: they work for pets who deserve the best care; they work for learners giving valuable skills, and they work for Training Providers with strong market appeal.

#### **Leading the way:**

iPET Network is an Awarding Organisation regulated by Ofqual, CCEA Regulation and Qualifications Wales, specialising in qualifications in the Animal Care and Veterinary Science sector. iPET Network is a sector-specific Awarding Organisation and are constantly developing innovative animal care and veterinary science qualifications in the industry. We are unique in our approach to development, design and awarding of qualifications through the range of services and support we offer. Additionally, iPET Network is an End-point Assessment Awarding Organisation (EPAO) for English Apprenticeship standards and offers Professional Development Recognition (PDR) of unregulated educational courses.

Our approved Training Providers have exclusive access to our portfolio of qualifications, courses, learning materials and assessment strategies. We offer an inclusive opportunity to join a diverse network of forward-thinking professionals across the UK, Ireland, Europe and internationally.

#### **We do the hard work for you – fast, flexible and straightforward:**

We have developed robust systems at the forefront of technology that include extensive resources, quality learning materials and varied assessment methods. Our centralised platform makes it simple for Training Providers and their teams to deliver, manage, mark and quality assure all in one place. We provide access to training and updates through standardisation to uphold modern best practice.

Organisations of many different types, who want to deliver education, can join iPET Network, taking advantage of becoming a direct approved Training Provider. With transparent fees and packages to suit every size of organisation from sole traders to limited companies, colleges and large employers.

#### **An exciting and supportive community:**

We practice what we preach - the iPET Network team has extensive experience and knowledge of working in the animal care, veterinary science and education sector. We provide support, advice and Continual Professional Development to help Training Providers offer the best standard of education and to inspire the future generation of the industry. We believe in removing learning barriers and working with Candidates of all abilities to help them reach their full potential.

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## 1. About This Qualification

The **iPET Network Level 2 Award in Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid** is an ideal starter qualification for horse owners and equine students who want to be prepared should a horse under their care need emergency treatment. The qualification has been designed to introduce the basic theory concepts of the most commonly faced first aid scenarios to include wounds and bleeding, fractures, colic, collapse, poisoning and handling the horse safely in emergency situations. This qualification provides an introduction to the theoretical knowledge required to respond quickly and effectively in emergencies and allows the opportunity to progress to study Equine Emergency First Aid at Level 3.

### Objectives of the qualification

This qualification has been designed to enable Candidates to:

- Define the objectives of equine first aid and understand how to classify different types of emergencies.
- Know how to safely handle horses in emergency situations.
- Understand how to complete a primary and secondary survey of the horse including the theory of how to take a TPR (temperature, pulse and respiration).
- Identify the signs and appropriate first aid management of wounds, bleeding and fractures including principles of applying bandages.
- Identify the signs and appropriate first aid treatment of digestive emergencies including choke and colic.
- Identify the signs and first aid for eye-related emergencies.
- State the signs and appropriate first aid treatment of lameness and poisoning.
- List the requirements and contents of an emergency first aid kit for horses.

The qualification will:

- Prepare individuals to progress to another qualification in the same subject area, studying at a higher level or a qualification requiring more specific knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Improve employability skills.
- Encourage engagement in learning.

Suggested progression following completion of the qualification:

- iPET Network Level 3 Award in Equine Emergency First Aid
- A regulated Level 2/3 Equine Care / Science qualification
- Employment in the equine industry (groom, yard technician etc.)

It is a requirement that assessment of this qualification is conducted in English.

The iPET Network Level 2 Award in Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid is a regulated qualification.

This qualification must be renewed every 3 years to ensure the Candidate is up to date with current legislation and potential updates in practice. Following the qualification end date, a new, updated qualification will be made available for Candidates to register on.

### **Guided Learning Hours (GLH)**

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) are defined by the [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act, 2009](#) as the number of hours the Candidate spends:

- Being taught or given instruction by a lecturer, tutor, supervisor or other appropriate provider of education or training, or
- Otherwise participating in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision of such a person.

**GLH does not include time spent on unsupervised preparation or study, whether at home or otherwise.**

iPET Network has calculated the GLH for this qualification representing an estimate of the amount of actual guided learning which could reasonably be expected to be required to achieve the standard required to obtain the qualification.

Estimated GLH will be stated for each unit which should be used by Training Providers as a guide for devising teaching and learning plans. GLH may be recorded within the e-portfolio (if being used) or within the Candidate Hours Log (if the e-portfolio is not used).

### **Total Qualification Time (TQT)**

Total qualification time is defined as the number of Guided Learning Hours (GLH) **plus** the time taken by the Candidate for independent, unsupervised study. Individual Learners' requirements and individual teaching styles mean there will be variation in the actual time taken to complete a qualification. Values for Total Qualification Time are estimates as some Candidates will be able to achieve units and qualifications within a shorter time than indicated. Others, for example those with additional support requirements, may need longer.

Guided Learning Hours and Total Qualification Time for this qualification are:

#### **iPET Network level 2 Award in Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid**

GLH (Guided Learning Hours): 7 hours

TQT (Total Qualification Time): 10 hours

### **Qualification Delivery Requirements**

This qualification may be delivered as the Training Provider sees fit, ensuring that iPET Network published Guided Learning Hours requirements are met. As part of the application to deliver, Training Providers must be able to evidence how they intend to deliver the qualification, including the methods by which they will achieve the estimated GLH and TQT.

## 2. Candidate Requirements

### Entry requirements

All Candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Students must have a keen interest in horses and have an understanding of the importance of providing correct care for horses.
- Relevant work experience in the equine sector would be desirable but is not mandatory.

All Candidates will be screened via an initial assessment with the Training Provider to ensure their suitability for the registration on the qualification. Whilst the above criteria form the basis of eligibility, Candidates may be registered at the Training Provider's discretion.

### Minimum age

The minimum age for access to this qualification is 16 years.

Training Providers ought to satisfy themselves that Candidates have a level of maturity appropriate for units included in the courses that they offer. If in doubt, please contact iPET Network for advice.

### Reasonable Adjustment and Special Considerations

Assessment within the iPET Network Level 2 Award in Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid qualification is designed to be accessible and inclusive. The assessment methodology is appropriate and rigorous for individuals or groups of Candidates.

iPET Network is an inclusive organisation and operates in line with legislation set out in the Equality Act, 2010. It should be noted that any Candidate registering for an iPET Network qualification, must be able to meet the assessment criteria (theoretical), with appropriate reasonable adjustment where required, in order to be certificated. Those Candidates with additional educational or physical needs, should discuss their support requirements with their Training Provider. Training Providers requiring further clarification should refer to the Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy or contact iPET Network on [info@ipetnetwork.co.uk](mailto:info@ipetnetwork.co.uk). This policy gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that take account of disability or learning difficulty without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

Further guidance and support can be accessed by contacting iPET Network.

## 3. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Exemption (also known as 'Recognition of Prior Certificated learning) - is the facility for a Candidate to claim exemption from some of the achievement requirements of an iPET Network qualification using certificated evidence, for example certificated NQF achievement. This must be of an equivalent or higher value to an iPET Network unit but may not share the exact assessment criteria or learning aims.

Training Providers wishing to obtain further details regarding awarding of RPL should refer to the iPET Network **Recognition of Prior Learning Policy**.

**RPL is not permitted for this qualification.**

#### 4. Induction / Initial Assessment

An initial assessment of each Candidate should be made before the start of their programme to identify:

- If the Candidate has any specific learning or training needs.
- The support and guidance they may need when working towards their qualification.
- The Candidate's suitability for the type and level of qualification.

Each Training Provider must carry out an induction so that Candidates fully understand the requirements of the qualification, their responsibilities as a Candidate, and the responsibilities of the Training Provider. This information will need to be recorded e.g., within a contract.

#### 5. Achieving the Qualification

##### **Credits**

To be awarded the iPET Network Level 2 Award in Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid, Candidates must achieve 1 credit.

##### **Unit achievement**

All of the assessment criteria in the unit must be met before the unit is deemed to have been achieved. The unit achievement is not graded: the unit is either achieved or not achieved.

##### **Recording achievement**

Training Providers must record the Candidate's achievement of each unit on an appropriate form(s) or electronic system. Training Providers should record the Candidate's achievement against the specific unit assessment criteria evidenced by the task.

##### **Authentication of the Candidate's work**

Tutors must demonstrate that the Candidate's work is authentic. This can be done through using iPET Network's e-portfolio system which provides secure access to each Candidate or through use of an alternative e-portfolio system. If a Training Provider is using paper-based portfolio, they must be able to demonstrate authenticity of the work and must provide transparent feedback from marking to internal quality assurance.

Assessments must demonstrate authenticity please refer to assessment methods in this Qualification Handbook.



### Duration of registration

All Candidates will be registered with iPET Network for a period of 6 months. Failure of the Candidate to complete the qualification during this timeframe will incur an additional charge for re-registration. Please refer to your **Terms and Conditions** for further details. Extension to registration may be obtained with written permission under specific extenuating circumstances. Please contact iPET Network for advice regarding extensions to registration.

## 6. Qualification Structure

### Units

iPET Network Reference No.	Title	Level	Credit	GLH	TQT	Unit Reference number
215	Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid	2	1	7	10	K/650/4728
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	

### Level descriptor

Level	Knowledge Descriptor (the holder...)	Skills Descriptor (the holder can...)
Level 2	<p>Has knowledge and understanding of facts, procedures and ideas in an area of study of field of work to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems.</p> <p>Can interpret relevant information and ideas.</p> <p>Is aware of a range of information that is relevant to the area of study or work.</p>	<p>Select and use relevant cognitive and practical skills to complete well-defined, generally routine tasks and address straightforward problems.</p> <p>Identify, gather and use relevant information to inform actions.</p> <p>Identify how effective actions have been.</p>

## 7. Assessment

This qualification requires achievement of the specified units and summative assessments. The assessment process is as follows:

1. Assessments are developed by iPET Network and provided to the Training Provider or assessments may be devised by the Training Provider and approved by iPET Network in advance
2. The assessment is then delivered and implemented by the relevant iPET Network approved Training Provider
3. All Tutors involved in the assessment process must have been approved by iPET Network, on an individual basis, in advance of any assessments being carried out
4. Compiled portfolios of assessed evidence are internally quality assured by an iPET Network approved Internal Quality Assurer (IQA) via remote sampling.
5. Completed portfolios of assessed evidence are then quality assured by an External Quality Assurer (EQA) approved by iPET Network.

### Assessment method

Assessment is through a Portfolio of Evidence/Workbook.

### Specimen Assessment Materials

Specimen assessment materials **are not available for this qualification.**

### Marking

These assessments are pass or fail and the Assessor's decision is final. The use of artificial intelligence to mark any candidate's work is strictly prohibited.

\*Please note re-assessments are permitted.

### Qualification grading

This qualification is graded pass or fail and the Assessor's decision is final.

### Appeals

To ensure a fair assessment procedure is carried out the Candidate must be fully briefed on the assessment requirements and given instructions on their right to appeal an assessment decision. All Training Providers must have an up-to-date appeals procedure.

### What constitutes a fail?

It is at the Tutor's professional discretion if they pass or fail the Candidate. It is recommended that all elements of each assessment criteria are met and that all knowledge activities are completed.

Examples of what may constitute a fail (theory):

- Plagiarism
- Irrelevant content

- Incomplete knowledge
- Incomplete coverage of an assessment criterion

When making an assessment decision it is important that all evidence and feedback is documented to support the assessment decision whether it is a pass or fail. If the decision is a fail, then the Candidate must be provided with support and the opportunity to re-sit the assessment once they are ready.

## 8. Offering the Qualification

Training Providers wishing to deliver this qualification will need to demonstrate the ability to adhere to quality assurance and assessment regulations.

All procedures for the use of this qualification or units of this qualification, including approval, registration of Candidates, quality assurance process and certification will be completed through iPET Network, who will have an allocated member of the Quality Team to support the Training Provider. Any queries or difficulties should be directed to the allocated Team member or if they are not available, via the iPET Network office on 0800 433 4700.

### Approval to offer the qualification

Training Providers wishing to offer this qualification must note the requirements stipulated in Appendix A.

To offer this qualification, potential Training Providers must apply for Training Provider approval with iPET Network. Applications can be made via email [info@ipetnetwork.co.uk](mailto:info@ipetnetwork.co.uk) or by calling 0800 433 4700.

In addition, to gain approval to offer the qualification, Training Providers must apply by submitting an iPET Network **Qualification Approval Form** which can be downloaded from the website.

For more information, visit our website [www.ipetnetwork.co.uk](http://www.ipetnetwork.co.uk).

### Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of standards.

Standardisation:

- Establishes statements on the standard of evidence required to meet the assessment criteria for the units in iPET Network Qualifications
- Makes recommendations on assessment practice
- Produces advice and guidance for the assessment of units
- Identifies good practice in assessment.

It is a requirement of the Training Provider approval process that each Training Provider offering units from iPET Network qualifications must provide assessment materials and Candidate evidence for standardisation if requested.

iPET Network will notify Training Providers of the required sample(s) for standardisation purposes. Assessment materials, Candidate evidence and Tutor feedback must be sent to iPET Network by Training Providers.

Outcomes from standardisation will be available to Training Providers through iPET Network.

### Support for Training Providers

iPET Network provides all Training Providers with on-going support and advice on the use of iPET Network units and qualifications, including the requirements for assessment.

If Training Providers who are approved to offer iPET Network units and qualifications have obtained a UKPRN (UK Provider Reference Number) from the UKRLP (UK Register of Learning Providers), this will be used as the Training Provider’s reference number. If a Training Provider has not obtained a UKPRN they will be issued with a unique iPET Network Training Provider number.

Information about obtaining a Unique Learner Number (ULN) on behalf of the Candidates is included in the ***iPET Network Training Provider Manual***.

### Training Provider responsibilities

Each Training Provider should identify a named contact person who will be responsible for any iPET Network provision within the Training Provider organisation.

The Training Provider contact must ensure all procedures relating to the delivery of the qualification operate effectively in the centre.

The Training Provider contact is the person responsible for confirming and ensuring that the Training Provider meets all the iPET Network requirements for Training Provider recognition.

The Training Provider contact is responsible for ensuring all relevant iPET Network documentation is distributed as required within the Training Provider and that the security requirements for external assessment are adhered to, where applicable.

## 9. Appendix A – Requirements to Offer This Qualification

Training Providers must ensure that Tutors delivering this qualification satisfy the following requirements:

<b>1. Subject-specific Qualifications</b>  Tutors must possess at least one of the following:		<b>2. Relevant Experience</b>		<b>3. Teaching Qualification</b>  Tutors must possess at least one of the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• iPET Network Level 3 Award in Equine Emergency First Aid</li> <li>• BHS First Aid Training (2-day course)</li> <li>• Level 3 Diploma or BSc in Veterinary Nursing and a Registered</li> </ul>	<b>AND</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CV / career profile demonstrating relevant industry/subject-specific skills, knowledge, experience and achievements.</li> </ul>	<b>AND</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• iPET Network Level 3 Award for Educators in the Canine and Feline Sector</li> <li>• Level 3 Award in Education and Training; or</li> </ul>

<p>Equine Veterinary Nurse (REVN)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinary Surgeon (MRCVS) with a minimum of one year's relevant equine experience</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training; or</li> <li>• Level 3 or 4 PTLLS (or equivalent).</li> </ul>
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If no formal teaching qualification is held, it will be a requirement that a teaching qualification is achieved within 12 months of approval.

Evidence of qualifications and experience must be provided in the form of original certificates, detailed CV and employer references. iPET Network reserves the right to request additional information in support of Training Provider/Tutor applications e.g., client reviews.

NB, The Training Provider must ensure that the Tutors' own first aid certification is maintained every 3 years. Following the qualification end date, a new, updated qualification will be made available for Tutors to register on.

Training Providers must also ensure that they have in place an Internal Quality Assurance person who:

- Holds or is working towards a Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices or its equivalent
- Has substantial experience of working in or assessing qualifications in the relevant subject area
- Is familiar with the assessment requirements of the qualification for which they are the Internal Quality Assurer

Or

- Gold package registrations are used (**Refer to Training Provider Fees**)

## 10. Qualification Unit Breakdown and Assessor Guidance

<b>Unit title:</b>	<b>Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid</b>
<b>Level:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Credit value:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>GLH:</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>TQT:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Unit code:</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>Unit reference number:</b>	<b>K/650/4728</b>
<b>Unit aim:</b>	<b>The aim of this unit is to provide the knowledge and understanding of equine emergency first aid, including how to respond when first on the scene of an equine emergency, how to assess horses in an emergency situation and when to call the vet. A range of commonly encountered first aid situations will be considered from basic wound care to fractures, poisoning, colic and respiratory emergencies.</b>
<b>Number of learning outcomes</b>	<b>13</b>

<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Assessment Criteria</b>
<b>The learner will:</b>	<b>The learner can:</b>
<b>1. Understand the objectives of equine emergency first aid including who can administer it</b>	1.1. State the objectives of equine emergency first aid 1.2. List who can perform first aid on horses in emergency situations
<b>2. Understand how to respond to emergencies and manage horses in emergency situations</b>	2.1. List the dangers of dealing with a large, powerful flight animal in pain/distress 2.2. List the techniques and tools to manage horses in an emergency situation
<b>3. Understand the classification of emergencies</b>	3.1. State the three main classifications of emergency 3.2. Identify example emergency situations within each classification
<b>4. Understand the DR ABC (primary survey) of equine emergency first aid and how to complete a safe secondary survey of the horse</b>	4.1. Define DR ABC (primary survey) in equine emergency first aid and the steps involved in making this assessment 4.2. Identify the procedure for completing a secondary survey of the horse safely 4.3. State how to take a horse's TPR (temperature, pulse and respiration) and the normal expected values
<b>5. Know and understand the common causes of respiratory emergencies and their basic first aid</b>	5.1. State the common causes and signs of respiratory emergencies in horses 5.2. Identify the first aid treatments required for a range of respiratory emergencies
<b>6. Know common causes of bleeding, how to control bleeding and recognise signs of shock</b>	6.1. List the common causes of bleeding in horses 6.2. State the techniques for controlling haemorrhage 6.3. Define shock and identify its signs and initial treatment

<b>7. Know how to dress and manage wounds and fractures</b>	7.1. Recognise the different types of wounds
	7.2. Identify the emergency management of wounds
	7.3. Classify and identify different types of fracture
	7.4. State the signs and emergency management of a fracture
	7.5. Identify the steps in applying a simple dressing to a horse's leg
<b>8. Understand how to recognise a range of eye-related emergencies in horses and how to provide immediate first aid</b>	8.1. Identify the causes of eye emergencies in horses and state their clinical signs
	8.2. State the first aid treatment of eye-related disorders in horses
<b>9. Understand the causes and first aid treatment of collapse in horses and the how this differs from unconsciousness</b>	9.1. Define collapse (recumbency) and unconsciousness in horses
	9.2. Identify causes of collapse (recumbency)
	9.3. State the first aid treatment required for collapsed horses
<b>10. Understand the first aid management of digestive emergencies</b>	10.1. State what colic is and its symptoms
	10.2. Identify the first aid treatment of colic
	10.3. Identify the signs and management of choke
<b>11. Know the causes and first aid treatment of lameness in horses</b>	11.1. List the causes of lameness in horses
	11.2. Identify the steps in applying a poultice to a horse's foot
	11.3. Identify the signs and first aid treatment of acute laminitis
<b>12. Understand the common causes, signs and first aid treatment of poisoning in horses</b>	12.1. Identify common poisonous substances and their relative severity
	12.2. State the clinical signs, emergency treatment and prevention of poisoning in a horse
<b>13. Understand what is required in an equine emergency first aid kit and how to communicate in emergency situations</b>	13.1. State the information you may need to have and communicate to a vet in emergency cases
	13.2. List the basic content required in an equine emergency first aid kit

### Assessment information

All Assessment Criteria must be evidenced. For guidance on assessment, including principles of assessment and methods which may be used, Training Providers should consult the iPET Network's Assessment Methods and the 'Assessment' section of the iPET Network Handbook, both available on our website [www.ipetnetwork.co.uk](http://www.ipetnetwork.co.uk).

Sector Subject Area (SSA)	3.3
Date from which qualification will be available for learners	01/01/2023
Qualification review date	01/01/2026

## 11. Suggested Learning Resources

Qualification	Suggested learning resources
Level 2 Award in Principles of Equine Emergency First Aid	<p><b>Literature</b></p> <p>Coumbe, K.M. (2012) <b>Equine Veterinary Nursing</b> (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Published by: Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 978-0-470-65655-6.</p> <p>Orsini, J.A. &amp; Divers, T.J. (2012) <b>Equine Emergencies</b> (4<sup>th</sup> edition). Published by: Elsevier Health Sciences. ISBN: 9781455745425.</p> <p>AAEVT (2009) <b>AAEVT's Equine Manual for Veterinary Technicians</b>. Published by: Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN-13: 978-0-8138-2971-5/2009. Reeder, D., Miller, S., Wilfong, D., Leitch, M. &amp; Zimmel, D. (eds.)</p> <p><b>Web Articles</b></p> <p><a href="http://horseandhound.co.uk">When should you call the vet for your horse? - Horse &amp; Hound (horseandhound.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="http://horseandhound.co.uk">Equine first-aid kit: what you need to include   Horse &amp; Hound (horseandhound.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="http://horseandhound.co.uk">'Know your horse': how simple actions can save your horse's life - Horse &amp; Hound (horseandhound.co.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="http://bhs.org.uk">Colic   The British Horse Society (bhs.org.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="http://bhs.org.uk">Acorn Poisoning   The British Horse Society (bhs.org.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="http://bhs.org.uk">Atypical Myopathy   The British Horse Society (bhs.org.uk)</a></p>

## 12. Supporting Documents and General

The following documents contain essential information for Training Providers delivering iPET Network qualifications. They should be referred to in conjunction with this handbook. To download the documents and to find other useful documents, go to [www.ipetnetwork.co.uk](http://www.ipetnetwork.co.uk), the web portal or SharePoint.

iPET Network Training Provider Manual  
iPET Network Quality Assurance Requirements  
Malpractice and Maladministration Policy and Procedure (including Sanctions)



### Document Control

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**Document Number:** Q70

Date of Correction	Version Number	Correction Reason
	1	
13/06/2023	2	Change of document name from 'Qualification Guide' to 'Qualification Specification' and amendment to assessment section
05/01/2024	3	Specimen assessment materials clarified, qualification review section updated and formatting updates