

## Declared Purpose:

*The following purpose is for the Level 3 Diploma in Pathology Support (4223-13), (QAN no: 501/2234/4). This is a Technical Level qualification.*

**This Level 3 Diploma in Pathology Support recognises the understanding and practical skills to succeed in roles in healthcare laboratories. It is designed to provide a suitable platform from which to take further qualifications or an Advanced Apprenticeship in this area.**

<p>Who is this qualification for?</p>	<p>This qualification is for learners who are interested in biological science and in being a Pathology Support Worker.</p> <p>Learners are likely to already have gained a Level 2 qualification in Clinical Healthcare Support or equivalent. Many learners will already be employed as Healthcare Assistants in health environments.</p>
<p>What does the qualification cover?</p>	<p>This qualification relates to work as a member of the laboratory team, as a Pathology Support Worker, a Healthcare Science Assistant, or a Medical Laboratory Assistant, providing assistance to healthcare professionals in handling specimens, carrying out testing, and maintaining automated machines.</p> <p>The core units cover the broad areas of healthcare such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote good communication</li> <li>• handle information securely</li> <li>• the principles of infection prevention and control</li> <li>• cleaning and decontamination.</li> </ul> <p>The optional units allow specialisation in roles such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• perform biomedical specimen/sample preparation</li> <li>• perform standard tests on biomedical specimen/samples using manual methodologies or commercial kits</li> <li>• perform first line calibration on clinical equipment to ensure it is fit for use</li> <li>• collate and communicate health information to individuals.</li> </ul> <p>The knowledge and skills covered within this qualification are also appropriate to working in other related roles in healthcare, such as Occupational Therapy Assistant or a Clinical Healthcare Support Worker.</p>
<p>What opportunities are there for employment or progression after</p>	<p>Many learners take this qualification as part of an Advanced Apprenticeship in Health (Pathology Support) (England). After</p>

I have finished studying this qualification?

Completing this qualification, learners could also study the Level 5 Diploma for Assistant Practitioners in Healthcare to enable them to work in health environments at a more senior level, with an opportunity to take on more responsibility for a range of clinical tasks, which may include management or supervision of colleagues.

Ultimately, to become a qualified practitioner such as a Healthcare Scientist or a Pathologist, you would have to go on to undertake a higher qualification at university to enable you to register as a professional.

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Further information can be found on our website and within the qualification handbook:

<http://www.cityandguilds.com/Courses-and-Qualifications/health-and-social-care/health/4223-healthcare-and-support-services/level-3>