



Qualification Specification

BT4A14 – VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 4 Award in Core of
Knowledge for Laser and Light Devices

610/2388/7

Version 3

About VTCT Skills

VTCT Skills is a market-leading specialist vocational and technical Awarding Organisation.

We offer a comprehensive range of qualifications, assessments and services in 17 sectors, including Hairdressing, Beauty, Logistics and Early Years. Working closely with employers and training providers, our ranges are backed by industry and trusted around the world.

With over 3,000 training locations, we help over 120,000 learners achieve professional skills that transform their lives, every year.

For more information, please visit our website or contact our dedicated Customer Support Team via email; customersupport@vtctskills.org.uk or call +44 (0)23 8068 4500.

www.vtctskills.org.uk

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1 Qualification at a glance

Qualification title	VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 4 Award in Core of Knowledge for Laser and Light Devices
Qualification number	610/2388/7
Product code	BT4A14
First registration date	1st April 2023
Age range	16-18, 19+
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	6
Guided Learning (GL) hours	5
Assessment	To be awarded this qualification, learners must successfully achieve the following assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Externally set and externally marked theory examination
Grading	Pass/Fail
Entry requirements	There are no formal prerequisite qualifications required prior to undertaking this qualification. It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure that learners have the required knowledge and understanding to enrol and successfully achieve this qualification.

2 About this qualification

2.1 Who is this qualification for?

VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 4 Award in Core of Knowledge for Laser and Light Devices is a knowledge-based qualification aimed at laser, IPL and LED technicians, who need to understand how to safely and professionally provide laser and light application treatments in the medical and aesthetics industry.

2.2 What does this qualification cover?

This qualification is informed by MHRA guidance in relation to safe application of laser, IPL and LED treatments. Learners must achieve the mandatory unit:

- UBT449 Core of Knowledge for Laser and Light Devices

Throughout this qualification, learners will develop knowledge on the characteristics of laser, IPL and LED radiation and skin tissue reaction to laser, IPL and LED application. Additionally learners will cover hazards and precautions, safety management, safe product sourcing, risk assessments, quality assurance and relevant and associated legislation influencing the purchase and use of laser and light devices. Learners will also gain an understanding of the safe working practices required in order to protect themselves and their clients when applying laser and light devices.

2.3 Why is this qualification the most suitable?

The primary purpose of this qualification is to prepare learners to progress to further qualifications within the field of laser, IPL and LED application. This could be for hair removal, skin rejuvenation, tattoo removal or medical applications. It also provides learners with the personal growth and engagement that sits alongside learning a new skill.

3 Qualification structure

To be awarded the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 4 Award in Core of Knowledge for Laser and Light Devices, learners must achieve the mandatory unit.

The minimum TQT required to achieve this qualification is 6.

Product code	Unit title	Level	GL	Unit reference number
Mandatory units				
UBT449	Core of Knowledge for Laser and Light Devices	4	5	K/650/6627

4 Centre requirements

4.1 Approval and recognition

Existing centres that wish to deliver this qualification must obtain recognition using the standard qualification recognition procedures.

New centres that want to deliver this qualification must gain both centre approval and qualification recognition. Please refer to the VTCT Skills website for further information.

Centre staff should be familiar with current practices and standards in the sector and with the qualification structure, content, assessment and quality assurance arrangements before designing a course programme.

4.2 Resources

Centres must possess the physical resources needed to support the delivery of the programme and the assessment of knowledge and skills, which should therefore be of industry standard. Where specific resources are required these have been indicated in individual units.

4.3 Teaching staff

In order to deliver this qualification, teaching staff must:

- ensure that the Core of Knowledge should be delivered by persons (e.g. a certified LPA) who have a high level of knowledge and understanding of: different optical radiation devices systems, optical radiation safety and the hazards associated with the equipment. This knowledge must be at the same level as or higher than the training being delivered
- hold a current, appropriate qualification or accredited training in the subject to be taught.
- understand the qualification's structure and content, and the learning outcomes they are delivering
- have credible experience of teaching and/or providing training
- undertake activities which contribute to their continuing professional development (CPD)

4.4 Record keeping

Centres must produce and retain records that include:

- learners on programme, including learner name, date of birth, contact details, assessor's name, IQA's name, and registration date with VTCT Skills
- assessment plans and IQA sampling plans
- learner assessment records detailing who assessed what and when, the assessment methods used, the location of the supporting evidence, and the assessment decision/grade awarded with supporting evidence
- records of internal quality assurance activity detailing who internally quality assured what and when, the sample selected and its rationale, records of IQA standardisation meetings, assessor and IQA competence records, monitoring records of assessor/IQA progress towards achievement of the relevant assessor/internal quality assurance qualifications and requirements for the retention of learner evidence

4.5 Total Qualification Time (TQT)

TQT is defined under the Ofqual General Conditions of Recognition, General Condition J1.8, as the number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected to be required in order for a learner to achieve and demonstrate achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of a qualification.

TQT is comprised of the following two elements:

- the number of hours which an awarding organisation has assigned to a qualification for Guided Learning, and
- an estimate of the number of hours a learner will reasonably be likely to spend in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place as directed – but, unlike Guided Learning, not under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

The TQT for this qualification is detailed in Section 3 of this specification.

5 Assessment

5.1 Summary of assessment methods

The assessment method for this qualification is external assessment. Learners must achieve the assessment detailed in the table below.

Mandatory units	External
Unit product code	Theory examination
UBT449	✓

5.2 External assessment

5.2.1 External theory examination

The theory examination will be set and marked by VTCT Skills. The theory exam will consist of multiple choice questions. Questions will cover all learning outcomes within the mandatory unit.

The pass mark for this examination is 70%. Please note all pass marks are subject to review and revision by VTCT Skills (ITEC).

Examinations must be undertaken by learners under controlled examination conditions in accordance with policies and procedures for external assessment.

5.2.2 Retaking external examinations

Learners who fail to achieve the required pass mark are permitted to re-sit after having sufficient teaching and additional study time. There is no limit to the number of retakes a learner can carry out. External examinations will be subject to rotation by VTCT Skills. Re-sits are subject to charges as stated in the 'VTCT Skills Service Fees'.

5.2.3 Reasonable adjustments and special considerations

A reasonable adjustment is an adjustment made to an assessment for a qualification that is approved or set in place before an assessment activity takes place; it constitutes an arrangement to give the learner access to the qualification.

Information on the reasonable adjustments and special considerations allowed for the external examination within this qualification can be found on the VTCT Skills website.

5.3 Spot checking

In addition to the scheduled theory examination, targeted and unannounced spot checks of centres delivering this qualification will be undertaken as part of the awarding organisation's formal quality assurance process.

6 Support and guidance

A unit specification is available to support qualification delivery and assessment.

For more information, visit the VTCT Skills website (www.vtctskills.org.uk)

7 Unit structure

The unit is available as a separate specification and can be downloaded from the VTCT Skills website. The unit that makes up this qualification is structured as follows:

Product code	The code allocated by the awarding organisation. This should be used when communicating directly with the awarding organisation.
Title	Reflects the content of the unit.
Unit reference number	This is the unit reference number as detailed on Ofqual's Register of Regulated Qualifications.
Level	This represents the level of achievement. The National Qualifications Framework level descriptors and similar qualifications at this level inform the allocation of the unit level.
Guided Learning (GL) hours	All units have GL assigned to them. This is the time a learner spends: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• being taught or given instruction by a lecturer, tutor, supervisor or other appropriate provider of education or training.
Overview	Provides a summary of what learners will cover in a unit, and outlines the knowledge and understanding to be developed.
Learning outcomes	Specify what a learner will know and understand as a result of completing a unit.
Assessment criteria	Assessment criteria specify the minimum standard required by the learner to achieve the relevant grade. Learners must provide sufficient and valid evidence to achieve the grade.
Taught content	Provides the basis for the teaching, learning and assessment of each learning outcome. Teachers and tutors should ensure that the full breadth of unit content is delivered.
Assessment requirements	Details the assessments that must be completed and achieved to be awarded a unit. For more information on assessment methods see Section 5 of this specification.

Document History

Version	Issue Date	Changes	Role
V1.0	01/04/2023	First published	Product and Regulation Coordinator
V2.0	01/01/2025	New branding	Qualifications Administrator
V3.0	27/03/2025	Inclusion of Pass Mark	Qualification Development Expert