

## QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

FAA LEVEL 2 AWARD IN **FIRST AID FOR MENTAL HEALTH (RQF)**  
AWARD IN **FIRST AID FOR MENTAL HEALTH AT SCQF LEVEL 5**



Each year approximately 1 in 4 people in the UK will experience a mental health condition and at least 1 in 6 employees experience common mental health problems in the workplace. Research has shown that work is the biggest cause of stress which can stop people performing at their best.

Mental health conditions are often hidden due to stigma and fear of discrimination and research has shown that a culture of fear and silence around mental health is costly to employers. The HSE guidance '[First aid needs assessment](#)' refers to mental health in the workplace.

This 6-hour qualification provides learners with the knowledge to recognise a range of mental health conditions, how to start a supportive conversation and when and how to signpost a person to seek appropriate professional help. Learners will know how to recognise and manage stress and understand the impact of substance abuse. They will learn about the first aid action plan for mental health, be able to put it in place and know how to implement a positive mental health culture in the workplace.

Learners will not diagnose or treat mental health conditions as this can only be carried out by healthcare professionals but will gain the knowledge to identify when a person may have a condition and know where they can go to get help.

# QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

## Qualification structure

This qualification is regulated in the UK and awarded by First Aid Awards. FAA are an Awarding Organisation regulated by Ofqual and SQA Accreditation. The qualification sits on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) and the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

The qualification consists of one mandatory unit.

FAA LEVEL 2 AWARD IN FIRST AID FOR MENTAL HEALTH (RQF)						
QAN	Unit title	URN	Credit value	Level	GLH	TQT
603/3769/2	First Aid for Mental Health	Y/617/2919	1	2	6	7

  

AWARD IN FIRST AID FOR MENTAL HEALTH AT SCQF LEVEL 5						
QAN	Unit title	URN	Credit value	Level	GLH	TQT
R600 04	First Aid for Mental Health	UM87 04	1	5	6	7

QAN - Qualification Accreditation Number      URN - Unit Reference Number      GLH - Guided Learning Hours      TQT - Total Qualification Time

## Entry requirements

The qualification is available to learners aged 14 or over.

It is recommended that learners should hold a minimum of Level 1 in literacy or equivalent to undertake this qualification.

It may be possible to allocate a reasonable adjustment to a learner who has a disability, medical condition or learning need; learners should contact their training provider to discuss. Any reasonable adjustments granted must be in line with the [FAA Reasonable Adjustments Policy](#).

## Qualification delivery

The qualification has 6 assigned guided learning hours (GLH) and 7 hours total qualification time (TQT). GLH indicates the number of classroom contact hours that the learner will undertake. TQT includes GLH but also takes into account any unsupervised learning and is an estimate of how long the average learner will take to complete the qualification.

The minimum classroom contact time of 6 hours can be spread over a maximum of 3 weeks. Each session must be a minimum of two hours.

The class ratio for the qualification is a maximum of 16 learners to 1 Trainer/Assessor.

## Certification

The qualification is valid for three years from the date of achievement. It is strongly recommended that the learner attends annual refresher training.

The learner will need to complete the full course again to requalify for a further three years.

## Progression

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress to the FAA Level 3 Award in Supervising First Aid for Mental Health (RQF)/Award in Leading First Aid for Mental Health at SCQF Level 6. FAA also offer qualifications in health & safety including manual handling and fire safety, food safety, safeguarding and first aid and related subjects if a learner wanted to diversify.



# QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

## Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

A regulated qualification has set learning outcomes and assessment criteria. The learning outcomes describe the skills and knowledge a learner will gain by successfully completing the qualification. The assessment criteria state the skills, knowledge and competence a learner will be required to demonstrate during the course assessment.

FIRST AID FOR MENTAL HEALTH	
LEARNING OUTCOMES The learner will:	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA The learner can:
1. Know what mental health is, why people develop mental health conditions and the role of a First Aider for mental health	<b>1.1</b> Define mental health <b>1.2</b> Indicate understanding of the stigma surrounding mental health <b>1.3</b> Identify factors that can affect a person's mental health <b>1.4</b> Understand the role of a First Aider for mental health
2. Know how to provide advice and practical support for a person presenting a mental health condition	<b>2.1</b> Outline the advice that should be provided to a person suffering from a suspected mental health condition <b>2.2</b> Know when to contact the emergency services in respect of first aid for mental health
3. Know how to recognise and manage stress	<b>3.1</b> Identify signs of stress <b>3.2</b> State how stress can be managed
4. Know how to recognise a range of mental health conditions	<b>4.1</b> Identify signs and/or symptoms for the following mental health conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depression</li> <li>• Anxiety</li> <li>• Psychosis</li> <li>• Eating disorders</li> <li>• Suicide</li> <li>• Self-harm</li> </ul>
5. Understand the impact of substance abuse on mental health	<b>5.1</b> State potential effects of alcohol and drug abuse on a person's mental health <b>5.2</b> Outline potential negative consequences of substance abuse on a person's employment and lifestyle
6. Understand the first aid action plan for mental health and be able to put it in place	<b>6.1</b> Demonstrate the application of the first aid action plan for mental health
7. Know how to implement a positive mental health culture in the workplace	<b>7.1</b> State key factors in providing a positive mental health culture in the workplace <b>7.2</b> Know how to implement a positive mental health culture in the workplace

## ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

The qualification is assessed through a written assessment paper and the practical demonstration of the first aid action plan for mental health. Learners must successfully pass both parts of the assessment to be awarded the qualification.

There is no grading of the assessment; learners pass or are referred.