



# Diploma in Emergency Fire and Rescue Services

LEVEL  
3

This qualification is aimed at those working as an operational firefighter



**Total Qualification Time:**  
**450 hrs**



**Guided Learning (GL):**  
**295 hrs**

**Qualification Number:** Wales C00/1239/0  
England 610/0363/3

**Qualification Age:** 18

**Availability:** This qualification is regulated in  
England and Wales

**Operational From:** 1 June 2018 (Wales)  
1 February 2022 (England)



# Qualification Objectives

## What does this qualification cover?

The objective of this qualification is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role of an operational firefighter.

## Who is the qualification for?

This qualification is aimed at those working as an operational firefighter.

## Who supports this qualification?

The qualification was developed in collaboration with fire and rescue services in Wales but is also supported by fire and rescue services in England.



# Qualification Progression

## What future education could this qualification lead to?

Learners could progress to more specialist qualifications in the fire and rescue sector, such as incident command, using breathing apparatus.

## What future employment could this qualification lead to?

This qualification allows the learner to work as an operational firefighter. It could lead to development into specialist areas (incident command, community safety, water rescue, breathing apparatus), or occupational progression to more senior roles within the fire service.



# Qualification Achievement

## What are the entry requirements for the qualification?

Prior to registration learners are required to be:

- accurately identified
- at least 18 years of age
- working in an operational firefighter role which will allow demonstration of skills

## How is the qualification achieved?

The learner will need to complete 6 mandatory units. This will include building portfolio of evidence meeting the assessment criteria.

## What will be assessed?

Portfolio of evidence and demonstration of skills in the training environment and in the workplace.

## How will it be assessed?

This qualification contains 6 mandatory units to be completed by the learner. Each unit is comprised of a number of learning outcomes and assessment criteria which must all be achieved.

Learning outcomes that begin 'The learner will understand...' will be assessed through theory-based activities.

Learning outcomes that begin 'The learner will be able to...' are assessed through practical activities.

For example:

### Learning outcomes

The learner will...

1. Understand the components of operational intelligence important for working within the community
2. Be able to rescue life involved in incidents

### Assessment criteria

The learner will...

- 1.1 Identify the sources and availability of information relating to operational risks within the community
- 1.2 Describe the characteristics of the local community - its people, risks, geography and topography
- 1.3 Explain how intelligence can be used to inform operations
- 2.1 Administer aid to minimise further injury and suffering
- 2.2 Use equipment safely and within its limitations to carry out the rescue
- 2.3 Contribute to removing casualties to a place of safety



# Qualification Delivery

## What facilities and/or equipment are needed to deliver this qualification?

The approved centre is required to have:

- one or more delivery sites with facilities to support the programme of training and assessment
- equipment in place to facilitate the full programme of learning and assessment
- opportunities in the workplace for learners to carry out tasks/activities which allow them to generate evidence to meet assessment criteria.

## What qualification materials support this qualification?

This qualification is supported by additional documents which must be read by all relevant personnel within approved centres approved to offer this qualification. These include:

- SFJ Awards Level 3 Diploma in Emergency Fire and Rescue Services Qualification Handbook, detailing unit specifications, learning outcomes and assessment criteria for the qualification
- SFJ Awards Centre Handbook
- SFJ Awards Assessment Guidance
- SFJ Awards Quality Assurance (Internal and External) Guidance

Our policies are available on the SFJ Awards website  
<https://sfjawards.com/policies/>.

SFJ Awards also have template forms available to support assessors and internal quality assurers.

## What workforce is needed to be able to deliver this qualification?

The approved centre is required to have a qualified and competent qualification workforce in place which includes as a minimum:

- Head of Centre
- Centre Coordinator
- Assessor(s) and Internal Quality Assurers (IQA) who:
  - Are occupationally knowledgeable in operational firefighting
  - Have current occupational competence in operational firefighting
- Assessors who are:
  - Qualified with a recognised assessor qualification, or
  - Working towards a recognised assessor qualification, or
  - Able to prove equivalent competence through training to appropriate national standards
- IQA(s) who are:
  - Qualified with a recognised IQA qualification, or
  - Working towards a recognised IQA qualification, or
  - Able to prove equivalent competence through training to appropriate national standards

## How much does this qualification cost?

Qualification registration fees are available from SFJ Awards on request.

## How to apply to deliver this qualification

SFJ Awards' approved centres should complete the Qualification Approval Form available from Odyssey or the Centre Resources section of the website:

[www.sfjawards.com/centres/centre-resources](http://www.sfjawards.com/centres/centre-resources)

Other centres will need to become approved by SFJ Awards. For information and the centre application form please see our website:

[www.sfjawards.com/centres/become-a-centre](http://www.sfjawards.com/centres/become-a-centre)

For more information please contact SFJ Awards' Customer Support Team:

**Tel: 0114 284 1970**

**Email: [info@sfjawards.com](mailto:info@sfjawards.com)**

**Website: [www.sfjawards.com](http://www.sfjawards.com)**



# Qualification Structure

Learners must successfully complete 6 mandatory units to achieve the qualification

Unit title	Level	GL	Reference	Assessment method(s)
Understanding the roles, responsibilities and requirements of a firefighter	3	110	J/650/1107	All units are assessed through a combination of the following methods as appropriate to the learning outcome/assessment criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• E-assessment</li><li>• Portfolio of Evidence (including for example records of professional discussions, question and answer sessions, work products, witness testimony)</li><li>• Practical Demonstration / Assignment</li><li>• Practical Examination</li><li>• Written Examination</li></ul>
Resolve fire and rescue operational incidents	3	95	L/650/1109	
Support the effectiveness of the operational response to risks within the community	3	30	Y/650/1111	
Protect the environment from the effects of incidents involving hazardous materials	3	20	A/650/1112	
Take responsibility for personal performance and support the development of colleagues	3	20	D/650/1113	
Inform and educate the community to improve awareness of safety matters	3	20	F/650/1114	

# Contacts



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## **Ofqual**

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Website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual)

## **Qualifications Wales**

Tel: 01633 373 222  
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Website: [www.qualificationswales.org](http://www.qualificationswales.org)

## **CCEA**

How to contact: <https://ccea.org.uk/contact>  
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Website: <https://ccea.org.uk/regulation>

## **Skills for Justice**

How to contact: [www.sfjuk.com/contact](http://www.sfjuk.com/contact)  
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Website: [www.sfjuk.com](http://www.sfjuk.com)

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SFJ Awards is part of the Workforce Development Trust, a not-for-profit organisation, together with Skills for Justice and Skills for Health. For over 10 years Skills for Health and Skills for Justice have been working with employers, Governments of the UK and agencies within the skills system, to better equip workforces with the right skills now and for the future. During this time both Skills for Health and Skills for Justice have earned an enviable reputation for their knowledge of the health and justice sectors and their proactive approach to the development of skills and qualifications, along with an ability to deliver genuinely workable solutions for the employers they represent. SFJ Awards is an awarding organisation that builds upon this reputation. We work with employers in the policing, community safety, legal, armed forces and health sectors and understand their specific challenges, enabling us to quality assure learning outcomes that are suited to the needs of the sectors.