

Withdrawal of OCR qualifications in the IT Application Specialist apprenticeship– Frequently Asked Questions

These qualifications are part of the IT Application Specialist Apprenticeship Framework which is closing in England from 31 July 2020. Following a review, we have decided to withdraw them.

We will continue to support and assess the qualifications up to the last certification date, identified below:

Entry Code	Qualification Title	Qualification Number	Last date for entries	Last certification date
13996	OCR Level 2 Diploma in IT User Skills (ITQ) (Apprenticeships only)	600/1955/4	31 July 2020	31 August 2021
13999	OCR Level 3 Diploma in IT User Skills (ITQ) (Apprenticeships only)	600/1958/X	31 July 2020	31 August 2021

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the last date I can enter a student?

The last date to enter a student for these qualifications is **31 July 2020**.

2. What is the last date I can certificate a student?

The last date that OCR will produce certificates is on **31 August 2021**.

Centres should complete all students' assessments and submit claims at least two months before the last certification date (June 2021).

3. Why is OCR withdrawing these qualifications?

There are new apprenticeships. We will not offer a replacement for the qualifications being withdrawn.

4. Does this mean OCR is withdrawing all qualifications in this vocational area / sector?

No, we will still offer other IT qualifications, including the other ITQ qualifications.

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-qualifications/vocational-qualifications-qcf-itq-2009-levels-1-3-in-it-user-skills-03991-03999-13995/>

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/subjects/computing/>

5. Are all Awarding Organisations withdrawing these qualifications or is it just OCR?

This is an OCR decision. The [Ofqual Register](#) may show other awarding organisations that still offer these.

For up to date information about qualifications offered in Wales, please visit [QiW](#).

For up to date information about qualifications offered in Northern Ireland, please visit [NIEFQAN](#).

6. What if a student has completed the work but we haven't made an entry for that student by the last entry date?

Students must be entered via OCR Interchange before the last entry date. If the last entry date has passed, please [contact us](#).

7. What will happen if a student has a unit withdrawn and wants to claim the unit at a later date?

If they were entered before the last entry date, and the last certification date has not passed, units can still be claimed. You must claim before the last certification date.

8. What do we need to consider as the last certification date approaches?

You should plan to complete all assessments at least two months before 31 August 2021. Please make sure your students have completed their portfolios of work, which must meet all the assessment criteria.

9. Who do I contact for more information about alternative OCR qualifications?

Contact our Customer Support Centre on **02476 851509** or email vocational.qualifications@ocr.org.uk.