



## Qualification Specification

# STA Level 2 Award in Pool Water Treatment

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## This qualification is regulated by Ofqual (England), Qualification Wales (Wales) and CCEA (Northern Ireland)

### STA Level 2 Award in Pool Water Treatment

Qualification Number: 610/0679/8

QW Number: C00/4651/8

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### Unit Structure

This qualification consists of 2 mandatory units

Unit Title	Code	Unit Level	GLH	TQT
Swimming Pool Water Testing	Y/503/0740	2	4	4
Fundamentals of Pool Water Treatment	J/650/1982	2	4	4

GLH = Guided learning hours

TQT = Total qualification time

### Total Qualification Time

8 Hours

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### Qualification Delivery

The recommended contact hours for this qualification is 8 hours which includes direct teaching and assessing but excludes breaks. The course may be run over 1 day but can also be delivered over a period of weeks, with the minimum of each training session being 2 hours.

The ratio for this qualification is a maximum of 16 learners to 1 tutor.

## Introduction:

The STA Level 2 Award in Pool Water Treatment is designed to equip learners with the skills and theoretical knowledge to competently test swimming pool and spa water and have a basic understanding of what the results indicate. As well as water testing it covers the fundamental skills and theory in the principles of the treatment of swimming pool water.

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## Qualification Objective:

To provide learners with the knowledge and skills to support the pool plant operator in water treatment and carry out pool water tests for safety, hygiene, comfort and water balance.

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## Target Learners

This qualification is relevant to those looking to gain a basic understanding of pool water treatment and water testing. Some examples of sites where this qualification may be relevant include:

- Swimming Pools
  - Sports and Leisure Centres
  - Health Clubs
  - Spas (Including those displayed in retail outlets / distributors / installers)
  - Hotels
  - Holiday Parks
  - Hydrotherapy Pools
  - Schools
  - Parks
  - Lidos
  - Interactive Water Features
  - Swim Schools.
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## Progression

Following completion of this qualification learners can further their education in pool plant operations by undertaking a Pool Plant Operations Qualification. They can complete other leisure and recreation related qualifications. Gain / continue employment in leisure and recreation / maintenance.

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## Industry Standards

The Swimming Pool Water Treatment qualification follows the principles set out in the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group's (PWTAG) code of practice and publication 'Swimming Pool Water'. It follows a range of Health and Safety guidance documents including:

- HSG 179
- HSG 274
- HSG 282.

## Entry Requirements

Learners must be 16 years of age or above on the first day of the course. It is advisable that learners have a minimum of level 1 in literacy and numeracy.

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## Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policies

STA have put measures in place for learners requiring additional support whilst undertaking STA courses.

For further information on these, please refer to <https://www.safetytrainingawards.co.uk/policies/reasonable-adjustments-and-special-considerations-policy/>.

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## Grading Format

Pass / Fail.

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## Awarding Organisation Policies

A full list of awarding organisation policies are available on our website: <https://www.safetytrainingawards.co.uk/policies/>.

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## Assessment Methods

This qualification is assessed through a practical demonstration of water testing and completion of a multiple-choice assessment.

All practical elements must be completed and performed independently by the learner without prompting by the tutor or other approved competent person, acting as the assessor (cannot be another learner).

The multiple-choice assessment is to be completed independently by each learner under exam conditions, with the tutor or other approved person, acting as the invigilator (cannot be another learner).

To pass the qualification learners must satisfactorily complete the practical assessment and meet the minimum competency deemed by the minimum pass marks for each unit in the multiple-choice assessment.

Tutors and assessors should refer to the STA swimming pool water treatment assessment guidance document for the fully detailed assessment process.

## Validity of Qualification

This qualification is valid for 5 years.

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## Tutor / Assessor Requirements

All tutors must have the skills, knowledge and experience to be able to teach and demonstrate the subject.

Each tutor must be approved by Safety Training Awards and provide evidence of:

1. A relevant vocational pool plant operations qualification and/or experience
  2. Attend a STA pool plant tutors course or experience of delivering for another awarding organisation
  3. Maintaining their technical competence within the subject area.
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## IQA Requirements

Internal Quality Assurers (IQAs) of this qualification must have knowledge and competency in Pool Plant Operations as well as knowledge and competency in internal quality assurance.

An IQA must hold:

1. An STA Level 3 Award in Pool Plant Operations qualification (or acceptable equivalent) and/or experience
2. Attend a STA IQA training day or hold a recognised internal quality assurance qualification
3. Attend an IQA CPD day.

Note: IQAs cannot quality assure a course for which they were the Tutor and/or Assessor.



## Resource Requirements

Course resources:

- STA Pool Water Treatment resource manual - Each learner is required to have their own copy of the resource manual to keep during and after the course, in order to have access to the theoretical knowledge of the qualification.

Venue:

- Room size: Adequate space for all learners on the course to undertake theory and practical work
- Seats: One per learner
- Writing surfaces - Adequate for each learner to make notes
- Toilets: Separate facilities for male and female learners
- Ventilation - Should be adequate
- Lighting: Should be suitable for reading, combining a mixture of natural and artificial light
- Heating - Should maintain a 'short sleeve' environment, minimum temperature 16°C
- Access / Exits: Should be safe, well lit and cater for people with special needs
- Cleanliness: Maintain a clean, tidy and hygienic environment
- Noise: Consider whether there is noise that may distract learners from training.

Location:

- Where possible the lecture venue should be in close proximity to the pool plant room.

Minimum requirements:

- Laptop
- PowerPoint presentation
- Projector / TV
- Pool testing equipment: Photometer or comparator - ratio 1:6 (1 to every 6 learners on the course)
- Sufficient number of tablets and test tubes for the number of learners on the course.

Recommended:

- Dry wipe board
- Flipchart.

## Equipment Service and Maintenance

Ensure all electrical equipment is in safe working order, serviced and maintained in line with statutory requirements, such as Portable Appliance Test (PAT), Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER).

Follow manufacturers guidance on regular in-service and ongoing maintenance requirements for all course equipment.

It is important to be aware of the trip hazards associated with electric cables and reduce such risks.

## Unit Specification

Unit Title	Swimming Pool Water Testing
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
1. Know about swimming pool water tests	1.1 State the importance of conducting regular pool water tests 1.2 State the minimum water testing frequency 1.3 Identify the different types of test equipment 1.4 State why it is important to ensure test equipment is free from contamination 1.5 State the methods for taking pool water samples 1.6 Interpret test results to establish if they are acceptable or unacceptable 1.7 State how long records should be kept for
2. Be able to carry out swimming pool water testing	2.1 Demonstrate how to conduct a range of water tests and record results 2.2 Calculate and record combined chlorine levels

## Unit Specification

Unit Title	Fundamentals of Pool Water Treatment	
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	
1. Know the different types of pollution found in swimming pools	1.1	State the categories of pollution found in swimming pools
	1.2	Identify examples of pollution for each category
2. Know the practices to promote hygienic swimming / bathing and cleanliness in the pool environment	2.1	State how to promote hygienic swimming
	2.2	List the advantages of good bather hygiene
	2.3	State the recommended frequency that the pool surround should be cleaned
	2.4	State the optimum cleaning procedure for the pool bottom
3. Know the principles of disinfection in pool water	3.1	State the purpose of residual disinfection in pools
	3.2	State the significance of pH to disinfection
4. Know the fundamentals of water balance	4.1	Identify the factors that must be tested to conduct a balanced water / langelier test
	4.2	Explain the objectives of acceptable water balance parameters
5. Know the key principles of a pool circulation system	5.1	Identify the main components of the circulation system
	5.2	Identify the different systems for surface water removal
	5.3	Explain the dangers of inlets and outlets
6. Know the key principles of pool chemical safety	6.1	Identify the key regulation relevant to pool chemicals
	6.2	State why PPE is used
	6.3	Identify the control measures that must be in place to ensure the safe use of chemicals
	6.4	Summarise the training requirements to safely operate a pool plant