

Level 3 Award in Quality Assessment of Fish or Shellfish

- A new qualification for managers/supervisors in seafood businesses
- A Level 3 Improve Vocational Qualification (IVQ)
- Nationally recognised and eligible for funding support
- Delivered as part of Sea fish's Advanced Seafood Quality Assessment course
- Supported by the Seafood Training Academy

What is it?



The quality assessment IVQ is a Level 3 qualification for managers and supervisors in seafood businesses that covers key areas including seafood quality science and the assessment of fish and shellfish quality.

To complete the qualification, participants must also demonstrate skills in assessing the quality of raw and cooked fish, or raw and cooked shellfish.

The Level 3 Award was developed for the industry by Sea fish and is awarded by Food and Drink Qualifications.

What are the benefits?

This qualification has been developed to complement Sea fish's Advanced Seafood Quality Assessment training course – a week-long highly practical training course in the application of TORRY and QIM methods to assess the quality of raw and cooked fish or shellfish.

After completing the Advanced course, and achieving the Level 3 IVQ Award, you really will have a finely tuned nose for the quality of seafood.

Tell me more

The IVQ Award is made up of four individual units. They are:

- Principles of Quality Assessment – a substantial theory unit covering the essential knowledge of how to use quality assessment schemes to objectively measure the quality of seafood;
- Principles of Seafood Quality Science – another substantial theory unit. This one covers the underlying theory of how and why fish and shellfish lose quality, and the impacts that will have on flavour, texture and odour;
- Demonstrate Skills in Assessing the Quality of;
 - Shellfish – one of three practical units. Two of these practical units are required to complete the award;
 - Raw Fish – one of three practical units. Two of these practical units are required to complete the award;
 - Cooked Fish or Shellfish – one of three practical units. Two of these practical units are required to complete the award;

How do I register for the qualification?

As part of the pilot, the qualification will only be available to new trainees who undertake Sea fish's Advanced Seafood Quality Assessment (ASQA) training course OR to those who having previously completed that course and undertake a one or two day refresher training programme.

Registration forms can be obtained from Seafish or your ASQA course provider and the programme will be offered from May 2011.

The assessments for the qualification will be administered by Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education (GIFHE) and successful candidates will be awarded a Level 3 Award by Food and Drink Qualifications.



Related Training Courses

The Seafood Training Academy recognised training course – Introductory Seafood Quality Assessment is an excellent starter course and suitable for a wide range of seafood employees. However, it is not sufficiently advanced to provide direct access to this new IVQ Award.

Costs



As part of a pilot scheme to launch this new Award, and subject to terms and conditions¹, we hope to be able to deliver part or all of the qualification free of charge to eligible participants of approved training programmes using funding obtained via the Seafood Training Academy.

The cost of the ASQA programme is sufficient to match-fund this qualification. The costs of the Refresher course are insufficient to fully match-fund the qualification so some top-up funding may be required.

It is possible to undertake just one or two units and so achieve a *Unitised* qualification at no additional cost.

How can I find out more?

Sea fish is leading on these developments. For more information please contact Lee Cooper at Seafish T. 01482 486482 or E. academy@seafish.co.uk

More information can also be found on the Seafood Training Academy website at: <http://www.seafoodacademy.org/SeafoodProgrammesQA.html>

¹ Currently, funding to offset the cost of the qualification is only available to participants from England.