



## Qualification Specification

# STA Level 2 Award in Swimming Pool Water Treatment

## This qualification is regulated by Ofqual (England)

### STA Level 2 Award in Swimming Pool Water Treatment

Qualification Number: 600/6026/8

#### 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	5
Principles of Swimming Pool & Spa Water Treatment	R/504/0179	2	4	5

GLH = Guided learning hours

TQT = Total qualification time

#### Total Qualification Time

10 Hours

#### 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 Swimming Pool Water Treatment is designed to enable learners to understand the basic principles of the treatment of swimming pool water.

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## Qualification Objective:

To provide learners with the knowledge and skills to competently test water and maintain safe bathing conditions.

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## Target Learners

This qualification is relevant to those looking to gain a basic understanding of pool plant operations 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 tutor assessed through the completion of worksheets and practical demonstrations.

Worksheets are to be completed independently by each learner, with the tutor acting as the invigilator.

Incorrect or insufficient worksheet answers can be corrected or re-submitted in the notes section at the end of the worksheets. Alternatively, they can be addressed through oral supplementary questioning. All additional questions and responses must be recorded in the notes section of the worksheets.

Assessors will assess no more than 4 learners at any one time when performing practical demonstrations.

All practical tasks must be performed independently by the learner without prompting by the tutor.

Please refer to the STA pool plant assessment guidance document for the 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 Level 2 Award in Swimming Pool Water Treatment resource manual - Each learner is required to have their own copy of the resource manual to have access to theoretical and practical knowledge.

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
- Pool testing equipment: Photometer or comparator - ratio 1:8 (1 to every 8 learners on the course)  
(Sufficient number of tablets and test tubes for the number of learners on the course).

Recommended:

- Dry wipe board
- Flipchart.

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## 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
<p>1. Know about swimming pool water tests</p>	<p>1.1 Explain the importance of maintaining the quality of swimming pool water</p> <p>1.2 Describe the range of tests that are used to judge the quality of swimming pool water, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensory inspections (for example, clarity, scum lines and foaming)</li> <li>• pH</li> <li>• Free disinfectant levels</li> <li>• Combined disinfectant levels</li> <li>• Microbiological</li> </ul> <p>1.3 Explain why it is important to ensure test equipment is free of contamination</p> <p>1.4 Describe an active leisure organisation's standard operating procedures for taking water samples</p> <p>1.5 Explain the importance of following procedures to record the results of swimming pool water tests</p> <p>1.6 Describe what an active leisure member of staff should do if they identify hazardous contaminants (for example, faeces or vomit) in the water</p>
<p>2. Be able to carry out swimming pool water testing</p>	<p>2.1 Take water samples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out the following pool water tests</li> <li>• pH</li> <li>• Free disinfectant levels</li> <li>• Combined disinfectant levels</li> </ul> <p>2.2 Microbiological</p> <p>2.3 Record the results of pool water tests</p>

## Unit Specification

Unit Title	Principles of Swimming Pool & Spa Water Treatment	
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	
1. Understand the responsibilities of pool & spa water operators to provide a safe environment	1.1	Describe the operators' legal responsibility for providing a safe bathing environment
	1.2	State the ways in which operators can meet these legal requirements
2. Understand the causes of water contamination	2.1	List the various causes of contamination
3. Understand the key principles of a pool & spa water circulation system	3.1	List the main components of the circulation system
	3.2	Understand the role of these main components and the effect they have on maintaining safe bathing water
4. Understand the importance of bather swim hygiene and good cleanliness within the Pool & Spa Environment	4.1	List the advantages of good pre swim hygiene
	4.2	List ways to minimize transfer of physical pollution around the pool surrounds
5. Understand the key principles of Pool & Spa Water Disinfectants	5.1	Explain reasons why we disinfect Pool & Spa waters.
	5.2	Describe the different chlorine based disinfectants
	5.3	Describe the recommended disinfectant and pH ranges
6. Understand principles of COSHH	6.1	Identify key principles of COSHH