

New Level Recruitment – helping you recruit the best Health & Safety staff

Employer fact sheet 1

Information for employers – Health and Safety qualifications and what they mean!

There are so many different Health & Safety qualifications and professional memberships in the market that it can be difficult to know what means what! We are always happy to talk to you about these issues and to help you decide which level of experience and qualifications would best suit your company's needs (contact us on either 0845 270 1640 or info@newlevelrecruitment.com) but in the meantime we hope the information on this sheet will be of use to you.

It is important to remember though, that in Health & Safety, relevant experience can be just as important as qualifications, and that there are many very experienced and able H&S professionals in the industry who may hold very few qualifications at all!

Basically, the most common H&S qualifications can be graded according to the level of depth of knowledge they represent (as per the QCA guidelines)

Generally speaking, Level 3 qualifications are aimed at managers, supervisors and employee representatives who require the knowledge in order to carry out their Health and Safety duties more effectively.

Level 4 – 6 qualifications are designed for people seeking a professional career in Health and Safety.

Common Health and Safety Qualifications

QCA Level	Qualification
Level 3	British Safety Council Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health (Cert OSH) CIEH Advanced H&S Certificate NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health NEBOSH National Certificate in Construction Safety and Health NEBOSH Fire Safety and Risk Management Certificate NVQ/SVQ Level 3 in Occupational Health and Safety Practice
Level 4	NEBOSH Diploma Part 1 and 2 in Occupational Safety and Health Practice NVQ/SVQ Level 4 in Occupational Health and Safety Practice

Level 6	<p>British Safety Council Diploma in Occupational Safety and Health (Dip OSH)</p> <p>BSc/BSc (Hons.) in Occupational Health and Safety Management</p> <p>MSc/PGD/PGC in Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Management</p> <p>MSc/PGD in Occupational Health and Safety Management</p> <p>MSc/PGD/PGC in Occupational Safety, Health and Environment</p> <p>NEBOSH National Diploma in Occupational Safety and Health</p> <p>NEBOSH Environmental Diploma</p> <p>NVQ/SVQ Level 6 in Occupational Health and Safety *</p> <p>Post Grad. Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety</p>
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If you'd like our advice on appropriate qualifications or experience for a particular vacancy please email us at info@newlevelrecruitment.com or call 0845 270 1640.

Professional bodies associated with the Health & Safety industry

British Safety Council (BSC) - www.britishsafetycouncil.co.uk

The British Safety Council was founded in 1957 and is one of the world's leading occupational health, safety and environmental organisations. Their purpose is to promote health, safety and environmental best practice for the benefit of society and the increase of productivity.

Corporate membership only.

International Institute of Risk and Safety Management (IIRSM) - www.iirsm.org

The IIRSM is a professional body for Health and Safety practitioners. It was created to advance professional standards in accident prevention and occupational health throughout the world.

Member	MIIRSM
Associate	AIIRSM
Affiliate	Affiliate
Student	Student

Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) - www.iosh.co.uk

IOSH is the Chartered body for Occupational Safety and Health professionals. The IOSH membership structure was revised in 2005 to a system based on national vocational standards where all the elements of competence are assessed.

The revised membership structure is as follows:

Chartered Fellow	CFIOSH
Chartered Member	CMIOSH
Graduate Member	Grad IOSH
Technician Member	Tech IOSH
Affiliate Member	Affiliate

The qualifications and number of years experience required to meet the standard for each level varies. For more detailed information the IOSH membership structure can be viewed here:

<http://www.iosh.co.uk/index.cfm?go=membership.grades>