**Qualification Specification:**

**FireQual Level 3 Certificate in Foundation Fire Risk Assessment (610/6233/9)**

**FireQual Certificate in Foundation Fire Risk Assessment at SCQF Level 6 (R914 04)**

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**Version Control**

| Date of Update | Name | Version | Description of Update |
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| June 2025 | Lewis Ramsay | 1 | Technical Author of Specification |

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## About FireQual

FireQual is a nationally recognised specialist Awarding Organisation (AO) providing Ofqual and SQAA regulated qualifications to those working within the fire sector.

Our mission is to support and inspire candidates to advance their professionalism and continually develop their competence. We achieve this by creating and delivering high quality regulated qualifications across several relevant subject areas. We also recognise bespoke fire safety training programmes.

We value the contribution that our stakeholders make and, by building strong partnerships, we can ensure our co-produced qualifications are relevant and meet the needs of the fire safety community. By working with others and responding to the needs of the fire sector, we aim to inspire all fire safety professionals to reach their full potential.

The specification's principal aim is to provide candidates and Approved Training Centres (ATCs) with detailed information on the qualification and how it may be delivered. FireQual is committed to providing qualifications that are current and are based on all relevant legislative requirements, standards and guidelines. We will therefore review this qualification and issue updates when required.

FireQual ensures that candidates have access to all learning materials and resources (including the provision of alternative formats) through our ATCs. This allows candidates with individual needs to access the content in a way that suits their learning and development requirements.

FireQual is committed to promoting equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) across all its qualifications, which have been designed to ensure that everyone has an equal chance of success.

We promote initiatives that encourage diversity within the fire sector, and we operate a framework that enables individuals from underrepresented groups to succeed and progress. We require our ATCs to implement and practice EDI practices throughout their training delivery and assessment, and FireQual regularly monitors them to ensure adherence to EDI principles.

To successfully undertake the management of this qualification, our ATCs are directed to FireQual policies, procedures, additional guidance and support.

To access information relating to this qualification or to make general enquiries, contact should be made as follows:

All telephone enquiries:

01608 656130

(Please note all phone calls are recorded for customer service purposes.)

Email enquiries to:

info@firequal.com

Written communications may be submitted to the following address:

FireQual,

The Fire Service College,

London Road,

Moreton-in-Marsh,

Gloucestershire,

GL56 0RH

## About this qualification specification

Across the United Kingdom, there is a legal requirement to undertake fire risk assessments (FRAs) to identify hazards and situations that could lead to fires starting, developing and spreading and to identify the fire precautions required to effectively mitigate and/or manage these risks. FRAs can be undertaken by the person who has responsibility for fire safety within a building or premises (the Responsible Person (RP) or the Duty Holder (DH)) or by an individual who has been appointed by the RP. This qualification is therefore suited to these people but, is especially applicable to those who work as an Organisation's in-house fire risk assessor or those who are independent consultants offering FRA services.

Note - In England and Wales the legal requirement to undertake FRAs applies to many types of building and these (requirements) are imposed by the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (as amended). In Scotland, similar requirements are imposed by the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 together with the Fire Safety (Scotland) Regulations 2006. In Northern Ireland, these requirements are imposed by the Fire and Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 and by the Fire Safety Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010.

We value the contribution that our stakeholders make and, by building strong partnerships, we can ensure our co-produced qualifications are relevant and meet the needs of the fire safety community. By working with others and responding to the needs of the fire sector, we aim to inspire all fire safety professionals to reach their full potential.

The specification's principal aim is to provide candidates and Approved Training Centres (ATC's) with detailed information on the qualification and how it may be delivered. FireQual is committed to providing qualifications that are current and are based on all relevant legislative requirements, standards and guidelines. We will therefore review this qualification and issue updates when required.

This qualification specification is intended for potential candidates or employers. It details the requirements for candidates to achieve the qualification and includes information specific to managing and delivering the qualification(s), as well as the necessary quality assurance requirements. Our ATCs have access to a more detailed unit-based specification for this qualification, along with other guidance documents such as our Approved Training Centre Manual, to support their delivery and assessment processes.

## Understanding the Purpose of this Qualification

This qualification has been carefully designed to provide candidates with the essential knowledge and skills needed to thrive in roles within the fire safety sector.

It will assist the fire risk assessor to demonstrate the Foundation level competencies required to work on behalf of the RP or the DH.

By completing this qualification, candidates validate their abilities, enhance their professional reputation, and expand their career opportunities.

## What are the Benefits of this Qualification?

This qualification is specifically designed for those who are beginning their career as a fire risk assessor and who may be working under supervision. This includes those participating in a vocational training programme or who have enrolled in an FRA apprenticeship scheme.

It is particularly beneficial for those undertaking roles such as in-house fire risk assessors, independent fire safety consultants, and those appointed by a RP or DH to undertake FRAs in buildings and premises that can be categorised as presenting a low to moderate risk.

Entry to this qualification is subject to meeting the outlined criteria, ensuring candidates are adequately prepared for its demands.

## Advancing Your Career Through this Qualification

Achieving this qualification opens doors to a variety of pathways for further learning and career advancement.

It therefore provides a point of entry into the fire risk assessor learning and development pathway where, career progression follows three core competency levels, namely, Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced, in line with guidance provided in BS 8674:2025.

This qualification also acts as a gateway to enable participation in other fire safety related learning and development programmes.

These are aimed at broadening a candidate’s fire safety knowledge base and provide a means for them to participate in other programmes to develop their competence

## Eligibility to Enrol

There are no prerequisite entry requirements for registration and completion of this qualification. However, candidates must be at least 18 years old and be able to demonstrate evidence of proficiency in core skills such as literacy, numeracy, and communication.

Candidates must also have access to the relevant environment, equipment, and materials to allow them to successfully gather the evidence requirements as detailed within this specification.

## Achieving the Qualification

To successfully achieve this qualification, candidates must achieve the 1 mandatory unit.

The assessment methods include a portfolio of evidence (including case studies, reports, observation, and professional discussion), with all learning outcomes being assessed against set criteria to ensure a comprehensive assessment of the required skills and knowledge at Foundation Level.

## Scope and Topics Covered

This qualification delivers an in-depth exploration of key areas relevant to Foundation fire risk assessment.

The topics have been structured to provide a well-rounded understanding, with core areas including:

- Understanding the Foundation FRA principles for buildings and premises that can be categorised as presenting a low to moderate risk.
- Understanding and applying fire safety legislation, regulations, and guidance
- Understanding building design and maintenance to reduce the likelihood that fires occur, develop and spread
- Evaluating fire safety measures and management arrangements

## Unit of Study

The qualification requires candidates to complete the following unit:

| Ofqual | SCQF | Unit Title |
|---|---|---|
| M/651/7465 | UW03 04 | Principles of Foundation Fire Risk Assessment applicable to buildings and premises that can be categorised as presenting a low to moderate risk. |

## Ensuring Effective Delivery

ATCs offering this qualification must establish a supportive learning environment. This includes access to suitable facilities and equipment, as well as opportunities to engage in real or simulated workplace scenarios. These provisions ensure candidates can fully develop their competencies.

## Methods of Assessment

Assessments are designed to evaluate both theoretical understanding and practical application. Candidates will be assessed through methods such as observations, written assignments, professional discussions, and the compilation of evidence portfolios. These methods collectively ensure that the full scope of required skills and knowledge is thoroughly assessed.

## Staff and Expertise at ATCs

ATCs must employ knowledgeable and qualified staff to deliver this qualification. This includes assessors who hold recognised qualifications and have relevant industry experience, as well as Internal Quality Assurers (IQAs) who meet FireQual's standards for maintaining quality and compliance.

## How FireQual Provides Support

FireQual is committed to ensuring that candidates receive comprehensive support throughout their qualification journey. Our resources and guidance are designed to empower candidates, helping them meet the qualification requirements with confidence. From detailed guidance documents and templates to direct access to experienced assessors, FireQual ensures that candidates have the tools they need to succeed.

For those requiring additional assistance, FireQual offers reasonable adjustments to promote fairness and accessibility. These measures allow candidates with specific needs to demonstrate their capabilities without disadvantage, ensuring inclusivity across the qualification process.

## Resources and Materials for Candidates

FireQual provides a wealth of resources to ATCs to support both learning and assessment. These include detailed qualification specifications, relevant policies, and sample assessment materials. These materials are designed to guide candidates and ATCs alike, ensuring clarity in the requirements and standards.

## Regulated Standards and Recognition

This qualification is regulated by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) and the Scottish Qualifications Authority Accreditation (SQAA). These regulatory bodies ensure that FireQual qualifications meet high standards of quality and consistency.

## Opportunities for Further Learning

Upon successful completion, candidates may explore advanced qualifications in related areas or transition into specialised roles within the fire safety sector. FireQual provides a range of opportunities for ongoing learning to help candidates achieve their career aspirations.

For example:

**FireQual Level 4 Certificate in Intermediate Fire Risk Assessment (610/6275/3)**

**FireQual Certificate in Intermediate Fire Risk Assessment at SCQF Level 8 (R915 04)**