

Ascentis Awards and Certificates in ESOL Skills for Life Overview Specification



Ofqual Numbers:	See page 3
Ofqual Start Date:	01/09/2014
Ofqual Review Date:	31/07/2028
Ofqual Certification Review Date:	31/07/2029

QiW Designation Numbers:	See page 3
QiW Designation Start Date:	01/08/2017
QiW Review Date:	30/09/2026
QiW Certification Review Date:	30/09/2027

Qualification Overview

The Ascentis ESOL Skills for Life qualifications are based on the National Standards for Adult Literacy and are closely related to the ESOL Core Curriculum. They are designed specifically for people living in Britain and focus on preparing learners for the world of work or citizenship. The primary aim of the Ascentis ESOL Skills for Life qualifications is to assist the learner in becoming independent of others (such as interpreters or translators – be they professionals, family or friends) when interacting with native English speakers, both in a work environment and elsewhere. By improving their communication and fluency in English, learners will significantly improve their employability skills. Furthermore, these learners will benefit from the ability to access service providers and to have the linguistic confidence to travel, work and socialise beyond their local community.

There are several features of these qualifications that make them appropriate for their target learners:

- There is clear linkage between the ESOL Core Curriculum and the Ascentis-devised task-based controlled assessment tasks
- Each unit is internally assessed
- External assessments are internally marked by centre assessors and then externally verified by Ascentis
- Mark schemes are user friendly and provide sufficient detailed information to support consistent assessment decisions
- Assessment dates are determined by the centre, not Ascentis
- Each unit can be achieved as a qualification in its own right

Aims

The aims of the qualifications are to enable learners:

- 1 To take a full part in the world of work
- 2 To become independent of others, such as interpreters or translators
- 3 To access service providers
- 4 To travel, work and socialise beyond their local community

Target Group

These qualifications are aimed at a range of learners, including:

- Settled minority communities
- Refugees/asylum seekers

Regulation Codes

Ofqual Qualification Numbers:

- Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 1) – 601/4302/2
- Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 2) – 601/4080/X
- Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 3) – 601/4081/1
- Ascentis Level 1 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life – 601/4082/3
- Ascentis Level 2 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life – 601/4083/5
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) (Entry 1) – 601/4325/3
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) (Entry 2) – 601/4267/4
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) (Entry 3) – 601/4268/6
- Ascentis Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) – 601/4280/7
- Ascentis Level 2 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) – 601/4269/8
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) (Entry 1) – 601/4326/5
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) (Entry 2) – 601/4270/4
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) (Entry 3) – 601/4271/6
- Ascentis Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) – 601/4281/9
- Ascentis Level 2 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) – 601/4272/8
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) (Entry 1) – 601/4327/7
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) (Entry 2) – 601/4273/X
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) (Entry 3) – 601/4274/1
- Ascentis Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) – 601/4279/0
- Ascentis Level 2 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) – 601/4275/3

QiW Qualification Designation Numbers:

- Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 1) – C00/1191/1
- Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 2) – C00/1191/7
- Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 3) – C00/1192/1
- Ascentis Level 1 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life – C00/1192/5
- Ascentis Level 2 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life – C00/1193/0
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) (Entry 1) – C00/1191/2
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) (Entry 2) – C00/1191/8
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) (Entry 3) – C00/1192/2
- Ascentis Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) – C00/1192/7
- Ascentis Level 2 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening) – C00/1193/1
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) (Entry 1) – C00/1191/4
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) (Entry 2) – C00/1191/9
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) (Entry 3) – C00/1192/3
- Ascentis Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) – C00/1192/8
- Ascentis Level 2 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) – C00/1193/2
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) (Entry 1) – C00/1191/6
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) (Entry 2) – C00/1192/0
- Ascentis Entry Level Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) (Entry 3) – C00/1192/4
- Ascentis Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) – C00/1192/9
- Ascentis Level 2 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing) – C00/1193/3

Assessment Method

The Ascentis Awards and Certificates in ESOL Skills for Life require evidence of achievement of all the skills and activities that are set out in each unit within the specification. Each unit is assessed through the completion of tasks provided by Ascentis. The successful achievement of all the tasks for a unit provides confirmation that all learning outcomes and assessment criteria within the units of assessment have been achieved. Assessments are internally marked by centre assessors and then internally verified to ensure consistency. The assessments will then be externally verified by Ascentis.

Rules of Combination

Rationale for the Rules of Combination

ESOL learners may develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in English at different rates. For example, a learner may be more proficient at speaking and listening than reading and writing. Learners may simply have had more exposure to spoken language, or they may have learned a different script in their first language and need longer to develop reading and writing skills in English. Learners may also have had varying experiences or lengths of time in full-time education prior to beginning a course in ESOL Skills for Life. For this reason, learners may take in an Award in each separate mode of speaking and listening, reading and writing. Learners may also achieve a “spiky profile” in the full certificate

To achieve the Award in Speaking and Listening, Reading or Writing learners must complete the appropriate unit at the level of the qualification.

To achieve the Certificate learners must complete 27 credits by completing 2 units at the level of the qualification and one unit at the level of the qualification or above.

Ascentis Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life	
Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 1)	
Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 2)	
Ascentis Entry Level Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life (Entry 3)	
Ascentis Level 1 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life	
Ascentis Level 2 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life	
	Credit Value: 27
	Minimum number of credits to be achieved at the level of the qualification: 15
	Minimum number of credits to be achieved at a level higher than the qualification: 0
	Maximum number of credits to be achieved at a level higher than the qualification: 12

Ascentis Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Speaking and Listening)				
Title	Level	Credit Value	GLH	Unit ref
Speaking and Listening	Entry 1	12	120	F/506/1562
Speaking and Listening	Entry 2	12	120	J/506/1563
Speaking and Listening	Entry 3	12	120	L/506/1564
Speaking and Listening	Level 1	12	120	R/506/1565
Speaking and Listening	Level 2	12	120	Y/506/1566

Ascentis Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading)

Title	Level	Credit Value	GLH	Unit ref
Reading	Entry 1	6	60	D/506/1570
Reading	Entry 2	6	60	H/506/1571
Reading	Entry 3	6	60	K/506/1572
Reading	Level 1	6	60	M/506/1573
Reading	Level 2	6	60	T/506/1574

Ascentis Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Writing)

Title	Level	Credit Value	GLH	Unit ref
Writing	Entry 1	9	90	L/506/1628
Writing	Entry 2	9	90	R/506/1629
Writing	Entry 3	9	90	J/506/1630
Writing	Level 1	9	90	L/506/1631
Writing	Level 2	9	90	R/506/1632

See appendix 2 of the qualification specification for example combinations.

Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

The recommended guided learning hours for these qualifications is 270 GLH for all units, 120 GLH for Speaking and Listening, 90 GLH for Writing and 60 GLH for Reading. The expectation for these Ascentis qualifications is that the learner should follow a taught course of at least 30 hours.

Any centre that wishes to offer less than the GLH (or no taught course element) should contact the Ascentis office. A centre would then be reviewed on its own merits.

In order to be approved to offer a “test only” delivery of the qualification, the criteria likely to be considered are:

- The length of time that the qualification has been delivered by the centre
- The experience of the staff team
- Evidence of consistent sound delivery. For example, no action points being raised by the external verifier at recent verification visits
- The provision of specific training for assessors regarding good practice in assessing candidates who have not taken a taught course

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

The total qualification time for these qualifications is 120 for Speaking and Listening, 90 for Writing and 60 for Reading. The total qualification time for the ESOL Skills for Life Certificate is 270.

Age Range of Qualification

These qualifications are suitable for young people aged 14–19 and adult learners.

Contact & Further Information

New Centres please email hello@ascentis.co.uk or call **01524 845046**.

Existing Centres please visit the login area of our website, www.ascentis.co.uk, to view the full specification.

Product Development for enquiries please email development@ascentis.co.uk.