



## APHA Briefing Note 19/19

### Revalidation Deadline for OCQ(V) Qualifications – Essential Skills (ES) and Exports General (EX)

#### Purpose

1. To remind OV holders holding Grandfather Rights for OCQ(V) - ES and OCQ(V) - EX that the revalidation deadline for these qualifications is 30 June 2019.
2. To remind OV holders that the OCQ(V) - ES is a prerequisite for the authorisation of OV holders holding any other OCQ(V), with the exception of Companion Animals (OCQ(V) - CA). Failure to revalidate the OCQ(V) - ES by the deadline will result in expiry of any OV authorisation that requires ES to be held.
3. Similarly, OCQ(V) - EX is a prerequisite for the authorisation of OV holders under the specific export qualifications (CA excepted). Failure to revalidate OCQ(V) - EX by the deadline will result in expiry of OV status for any OV authorisation that is dependent on EX also being held.

#### Background

4. OV holders who were granted Grandfather Rights for OCQ(V) - ES and OCQ(V) - EX originally had a deadline of 31 March 2019 to complete revalidation of these qualifications.
5. Extensions to the revalidation of OCQ(V) - ES and OCQ(V) - EX were subsequently given to OV holders with Grandfather Rights. This was detailed in the following Briefing Note: <http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/ov/Briefing-Note-1918.pdf>
6. The deadline for completion was extended by three months to 30 June 2019.

7. Reminders have been sent from Improve International and the next reminder will go out on 23 June 2019. OV's will only receive these email reminders if their contact details are up to date on their Personal Training Dashboard.
8. If revalidation is not completed by the deadline, the qualification will expire, along with any OV status for which it is a prerequisite.
9. OV's failing to revalidate by the deadline will be able to revalidate the qualification during the six months following the deadline, as indicated in the Briefing Note <http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/ov/Briefing-Note-1519.pdf>.
10. If revalidation is not completed within the six month period the full course will need to be completed in order to regain OV status.
11. Revalidation intervals of 4 years were agreed for all OCQ(V) courses as part of the OCQ(V) review carried out in 2018. However, for all ES and EX revalidations completed by 30 June 2019, the previously agreed five-year revalidation interval will be applied. For those completed from 1 July 2019 the new four-year revalidation will be applied.
12. OV's with Grandfather Rights are required to complete these revalidation courses now in order to maintain the qualifications, and on completion a new revalidation date will be set. However, the current intention is that these two courses will not require separate revalidation by the time the next revalidation is due. Instead it is intended that the ES and EX content will be included in the OCQ(V) revalidations for which these courses are currently prerequisites.

### **Action for OV's**

13. For OV's holding Grandfather Rights for OCQ(V) - ES and OCQ(V) - EX to complete the required revalidation by 30 June 2019 if they require these qualifications in order to carry out their OV work. For further information and to check if these qualifications are required, please visit <https://www.improve-ov.com/home/> to view a flow chart that demonstrates how the courses are related.
14. For those not wishing to revalidate their OCQ(V) - ES or OCQ(V) - EX to confirm this at the earliest opportunity on the Improve International website, before the qualification expires.
15. For all OV's to ensure that their contact details are kept up to date on their Personal Training Dashboard.

### **Further Information**

Link to Improve International OV training website – <https://www.improve-ov.com/home/>

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