



AIMQUALIFICATIONS

Handbook

for centre staff



AIM Qualifications

**Suite of Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding
Qualifications**

Version 5 - September 2025

“ I would like to convey my thanks to you all at AIM for the support and guidance you have provided during our first year as a training centre. I am aware we have asked a lot of questions and sent a lot of emails and you have dealt with every query swiftly and efficiently combined with a lot of patience.

It has been a roller coaster of a year setting up everything from scratch but it has been made easier by having access to you all.

Carole Harmston, AIM Centre

”

Document Version History

Version Number	Date	Description
2	23/11/2018	Update to TQT values and credit removed (Pages 7-8) Credit removed (Page 11)
3	September 2019	Rebrand - 'AIM Awards' changed to 'AIM Qualifications' Qualification family added to qualification details grid (pages 7-8) <u>Level 2 Award in Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital</u> Geographical coverage updated to include Wales (page 8)
4	January 2022	- Qualification withdrawal dates added for: <i>(see page 8)</i> 'AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital (603/1368/7)' - Qualification review dates update for: <i>(see page 7)</i> 'AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding (601/5551/6)'
5	September 2025	Qualification withdrawal dates added for: - AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Peer Support: Breastfeeding - Operational End Date: 31/10/2025 - Certification End Date 31/10/2028

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Introduction

Welcome to the AIM Qualifications Suite of Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding qualification Handbook. This Handbook contains everything you need to know about this qualification and is intended for Tutors, Assessors, Internal Verifiers and other staff involved with the planning, delivery and assessment.

This is a live document and as such will be updated when required. You will be informed via email when changes are made and it is your responsibility to ensure the most up-to-date version of the Qualification Handbook is in use.

About Us

AIM is a national and international Awarding Organisation. We offer a large number of regulated qualifications at different levels and in a wide range of subject areas, Access to Higher Education Diplomas and End Point Assessments.

Our products are flexible enough to be delivered in a range of settings, from small providers to large colleges and in the workplace both nationally and internationally. We pride ourselves on offering the best possible customer service, and are always on hand to help if you have any questions. Our organisational structure and business processes enable us to be able to respond quickly to the needs of customers to develop new products that meet their specific needs.

Qualification Overview

Section One



About these Qualifications

The AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding aims to provide the skills and knowledge that will enable learners to become effective peer supporters for breastfeeding mothers. Learners will learn how breastfeeding works and the principles of breastfeeding management and effective communication.

The AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital is aimed at mothers who are wanting to provide breastfeeding support to new mothers. On completion of the qualification they could move on to employment as they volunteer at the hospital and gain experience working with other healthcare professionals.

Qualification Details

Qualification	
AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding (WITHDRAWING 31/10/2025)	
Qualification Family	Flexibilities
Assessment	Internally set, internally marked and externally verified portfolio of evidence
Grading	There is no grading for this qualification
Geographical Coverage	England
Operational Start Date	1st February 2015
Operational End Date	31st October 2025
Certification End Date	31st October 2028
Sector	1.3 Health and Social Care
Qualification Number	601/5551/6
Learning Aim Reference	601/5551/6
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	24
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	39
Learner Age	16+
Rules of Combination	To achieve this qualification learners must complete the single essential component.

Qualification	
AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital (WITHDRAWING 31/07/2022)	
Qualification Family	Flexibilities
Assessment	Internally set, internally marked and externally verified portfolio of evidence
Grading	There is no grading for this qualification
Geographical Coverage	England, Wales
Operational Start Date	1st May 2017
Last Learner Registration Date	31st July 2022
Last Certification Date	31st July 2025
Sector	1.3 Health and Social Care
Qualification Number	603/1368/7
Learning Aim Reference	603/1368/7
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	24
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	39
Learner Age	16+
Rules of Combination	To achieve this qualification learners must complete the single essential component.

Total Qualification Time and Guided Learning Hours

Total Qualification Time (TQT) is the number of notional hours it takes a typical learner to achieve the full qualification and is made up of two elements:

- the minimum number of Qualification Guided Learning Hours (GLH) - the number of Tutor-led contact hours
- the number of hours spent on preparation, studying and the assessment that is non-guided

For example, the number of tutor-led contact hours (GLH) for a qualification is 30 and the number of hours spent by the learner (non-GLH) on preparation, studying and the assessment is 6 hours. Therefore the Total Qualification Time (TQT) for the qualification is 36 hours.

Progression Opportunities

This suite of qualifications can help learners progress to the next stage of their learning journey within the Health and Social Care Sector

Entry Guidance

Learners must be aged 16 and over at the beginning of their learning, and steps to ensure the content is appropriate for the learner's area of learning in respect to inclusivity and ethical perspectives must be taken.

Qualification Dates

The qualification review date is the date by which we will have carried out a review of the qualification. We work with sector representatives to make any changes necessary to meet sector needs and to reflect recent developments. In most cases, we'll extend the qualification and set a new review date. If we make a decision to withdraw a qualification, we'll set an operational end date.

We will post information relating to changes or extensions to qualifications on our website and centres approved to offer the qualification will be kept updated. The certification end date will be three years from the operational end date.

Resource Requirements

Learners must provide evidence of practically supporting breastfeeding mothers, therefore physical resources will be required in order to deliver and assess these qualifications.

Qualification Structure

Qualification Structure

This section details the rules of combinations for these qualifications. All components are detailed in the next section.

Rules of combination for: AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding				
To achieve this qualification learners must complete the single essential component.				
No.	Component Code	Component Title	Level	GLH
Essential				
01	D/506/9815	Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding	Two	24

Rules of combination for: AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital				
To achieve this qualification learners must complete the single essential component.				
No.	Component Code	Component Title	Level	GLH
Essential				
01	D/615/6575	Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital	Two	24

Content and Assessment

Section Three

Centre Staff Requirements

As an Awarding Organisation, we require that:

Tutors have relevant teaching experience and/or a qualification, and experience and/or a qualification in the relevant subject area. Suitable teaching qualifications include:

- Level 3 or 4 Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) or above
- Level 3 Education and Training or above
- Diploma or Certificate in Education
- Bachelors or Masters Degree in Education

Assessors have an assessor qualification or evidence of recent relevant experience. Suitable assessor qualifications include:

- Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment
- Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement
- A1 Assess Candidate Performance using a Range of Methods
- D32 Assess Candidate Performance and D33 Assess Candidate using Differing Sources of Evidence

Internal Verifiers (IV) have an internal verification qualification or evidence of recent relevant experience. Suitable internal verification qualifications include:

- Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice
- Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice
- V1 Conduct Internal Quality Assurance of the Assessment Process
- D34 Internally Verify the Assessment Process

In addition, Assessors must have:

- Recent, relevant experience in the field of working with breastfeeding mothers

How these Qualifications are Assessed

These qualifications are assessed through an internally set, internally marked and externally verified portfolio of evidence. A summary of the assessment of each component is shown below. Guidance on our expectations is available in Appendix 1 – A Guide to Assessing AIM Qualifications.

AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding

Essential Components				Set by the centre			Set by AIM		
Component Number	Component Code	Component Title	Level	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical
01	D/615/6575	Peer Support Skills: Breastfeeding	2	✓	–	–	–	–	–

AIM Qualifications Level 2 Award in Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital

Essential Components				Set by the centre			Set by AIM		
Component Number	Component Code	Component Title	Level	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical
01	D/615/6575	Breastfeeding Peer Support in Hospital	2	✓	–	–	–	–	–

Operational Guidance

Section Four

Offering this Qualification

Centres wishing to offer this qualification must be an AIM recognised centre. New centres can apply to become a centre using the centre recognition application process on our website (www.aim-group.org.uk).

We can advise centres of the best and most efficient methods for offering this qualification. All procedures for the use of this qualification, including approval, registration of learners, verification and certification will be completed through AIM and all centres will have an allocated customer experience advisor to support them.

Approval to Offer the Qualification

Centres wishing to offer this qualification must complete and submit a Qualification Approval request (found on the AIM website). Some qualifications require centres to have specific resources in place and/or their assessors/ internal verifiers should hold certain qualifications. Where this is the case, centres must provide evidence of resources/staff qualifications when completing the Qualification Approval request.

Registration and Certification

Once your centre has approval to offer a qualification, you will be able to register learners using the AIM portal. Learners must be registered onto the correct qualification via the portal. Centres then select their chosen components.

For all registration and certification processes, please refer to the portal guidance document which can be downloaded from our website (www.aim-group.org.uk). Details of assessment, internal verification and external verification can be found in Appendix 1 - A guide to assessing AIM qualifications of this handbook.

Learners achieving a qualification will be issued with a qualification certificate detailing the achieved qualification and components. Learners who have not achieved a qualification will, on request, be issued with a component certificate detailing the components achieved.

Fees and Charges

The AIM Fees and Charges brochure includes all qualification charges and is available on our website. Please note that registrations will not be processed if centre fees have not been paid.

Section Five

Appendices

Appendices and Links

Appendix Title

A Guide to Assessing AIM Qualifications



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