Qualification Overview

The STA Level 3 Award in Pool Plant Operations provides learners with the skills and knowledge to maintain and operate a pool, spa and interactive water feature plant, ensuring safe, clear and hygienic water.

This qualification is regulated by Ofqual (England), Qualification Wales (Wales) and CCEA (Northern Ireland). This qualification is valid for a period of 5 years. The learner needs to retake the qualification before the certificate expiry date to remain qualified.

Qualification Delivery

The recommended contact hours for this qualification is 21 hours which includes direct teaching and assessing but excludes breaks. The course may be run over 3 days but can also be delivered over a period of weeks, with the minimum of each training session being 2 hours.

The ratio for this qualification is a maximum of 16 learners to 1 tutor.

Qualification Objectives

The objective of the Pool Plant Operations qualification is to enable learners to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding required to ensure the safety of swimmers, users, operators and other persons. The qualification provides the theory behind pool plant operations and maintenance, as well as providing learners with information on best practice principles and information on health, safety and legal responsibilities.

Intended Audience

This qualification is for people who have a specific responsibility for pool plant operations, maintaining plant rooms, ensuring safe bather conditions and water testing. Some examples of sites where this qualification is required include:

- Swimming Pools
- Sports and Leisure Centres
- Health Clubs
- Spas (Including those displayed in retail outlets / distributors / installers)
- Hotels
- Holiday Parks
- Hydrotherapy Pools
- Schools
- Parks
- Lidos
- Interactive Water Features
- Swim Schools.

Entry Requirements

Learners must be 16 years of age or above on the first day of the course.

It is advisable that learners have a minimum of level 2 in literacy or numeracy.

Qualification Assessment

This qualification is assessed through a practical demonstration of water testing and completion of a multiple-choice assessment.

All practical elements must be completed and performed independently by the learner without prompting by the tutor or the assessor.

The multiple-choice assessment is to be completed independently by each learner under exam conditions.

To pass the qualification learners must satisfactorily complete the practical assessment and meet the minimum competency deemed by the minimum pass marks for each unit in the multiple-choice assessment.

Learning Materials

All learners will be provided with:

- STA Pool Plant Operations resource manual

Costs

(Based on 21-hour course over three day)

Number of Candidates	Cost per Candidate	Total Cost of Course
4	£425.43	£1,701.70
5	£359.13	£1,795.70
6	£308.30	£1,849.80
7	£276.73	£1,937.10
8	£253.05	£2,024.40
9	£234.62	£2,111.70
10	£219.90	£2,199.00
11	£207.84	£2,286.30
12	£197.80	£2,373.60

(Prices are valid until 31 December 2026)

Revalidation Cost: For costs relating to revalidation please contact us due to dynamic circumstances (Remote, In Person, Tutor Led Hours)

Please note: These costs exclude any venue hire changes, course refreshments and accommodation costs if instructors are required to stay away during the course *(Beyond 50 miles from base)*. Please contact us further information if required.

Revalidation

The learner needs to retake the qualification before the certificate expiry date to remain qualified.

Learners revalidating an STA Level 3 Award in Pool Plant Operations or converting from an equivalent qualification may be able to have a reduction in guided learning hours. The number of guided learning hours needed for revalidations and conversions differs from learner to learner based on their individual experience, skills, knowledge and understanding. Some learners revalidating or converting will not require any guided learning hours.

Additional Information

Where possible the lecture venue should be in close proximity to the pool plant room.

For Further Information and Course Bookings

Telephone: 07860290461 (Lee Caunce) or 07548661581 (Samuel Dickinson)
Email: Contact@consulthealthandsafety.com