



Transcend Level 4 Certificate in International Armed Close Protection

Qualification Specification

Version 01: 31 March 2025

Welcome

Welcome to the [Transcend Level 4 Certificate in International Armed Close Protection](#) Qualification Specification. Transcend Awards [Transcend] is an awarding organisation regulated by Ofqual. The qualification is developed in collaboration with the talented team at the [British Training Board \[BTB\]](#) lead by esteemed educator and BTB CEO [Adrian Rabey](#). This qualification sits on the Ofqual Register of Regulated Qualifications. This specification must be complied with in line with the *Transcend Centre Recognition Conditions, Transend Unit Specifications, BTB Licence and BTB Approved Programmes*.

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Qualification Purpose Statement

Qualification Scope			
The Transcend Level 4 Certificate in International Armed Close Protection is an Ofqual regulated occupational qualification. It sits in sector subject area 1.4 Public Services and is solely awarded by Transcend, This qualification is designed to enable members of the armed forces, veterans and other public servants to evidence the proficiencies required to operate overseas in the occupational roles of Armed Close Protection Operative or Armed Security Officer. It is most relevant to veterans who developed these skills during their military career and who aspire to increase their employability prospects with civilian employers. This qualification is developed and delivered collaboration with British Training Board [BTB] as the independent licensing body for education providers of military professionals and veterans across the UK. It is integral to the Transcend BTB MVP¹ Education Portfolio. This Portfolio includes a range of occupational qualifications that align to the BTB Military Skills Translator and BTB Initiatives for Military Professionals, Veterans, Public Servants [MVP] and their families.			
Qualification regulation	This qualification is regulated by Ofqual. It is published as Level 4 qualification on the Register of Regulated Qualifications and is equivalent to a Level 5 on the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) .		
	Qualification number [Ofqual]	610/5021/0	Qualification sector
	Qualification start date	31 Mar 2025	Qualification TQT
	Qualification review date	31 Mar 2029	Qualification GLH
	Qualification credit	12	Qualification DSH
Qualification awarding	This qualification is solely awarded by Transcend Awards Limited as the recognised awarding organisation regulated by Ofqual.		

¹ [Military Professionals, Veterans, Public Servants \[MVP\]](#)

Qualification standards	This qualification is aligned to the professional proficiencies validated by the BTB Military Skills Translator .	
Qualification partner	This qualification is developed in collaboration with industry specialists the British Training Board [BTB] as the technical partner. The BTB is an independent educator of military professionals and veterans across the UK. This qualification is subject to consultation with armed forces trainers, military professionals, veterans, and equality experts. The collaboration and consultation groups remain in place for the lifetime of the qualification to ensure it remains fit for purpose.	
Qualification providers	This qualification is delivered in collaboration with British Training Board [BTB] Awards as the independent licensing body for education providers of military professionals and veterans across the UK. To deliver this qualification education providers must have a BTB licence and be able to meet the Transcend Centre Recognition and Qualification Approval Conditions. Due to the nature of the qualification it is delivered by providers that have evidence of the BTB Licence and are recognised as centres and approved to offer the qualification by the awarding organisation. Recognised centres are required to deliver the qualification in accordance with the BTB licence and the Transcend Centre recognition and qualification delivery conditions to maintain their status. All providers must contact British Training Board [BTB] Awards to access the licencing scheme prior to making a recognition or approval submission to the awarding organisation.	
	Applicant centres	Recognised centres
	Access the Transcend Awarding Website to submit a centre recognition enquiry to initiate the process.	Access the Transcend Awarding Management System [TAMS] to create and submit the Transcend Recognised Centre Extension Request Form.

Qualification participants + progression	This qualification is integral to a progressive suite of qualifications relevant to military professionals and veterans who wish to evidence proficiencies relevant to security occupations in civilian contexts.	
	Education progression routes	This qualification is integral to a progressive suite of occupational qualifications in the security sector which include: Transcend Level 4 Certificate in International Armed Close Protection Transcend Level 5 Diploma in Risk Management of Security Operations Transcend Level 3 Award for Security Trauma Emergency Medics [STEM] Transcend Level 4 Award for Security Trauma Emergency Medics [STEM] Transcend Level 5 Award for Security Trauma Emergency Medics [STEM]
	Employability progression routes	This qualification may lead to employment as a civilian in the following occupational roles: Armed Close Protection Operative Overseas Armed Security Operative Overseas
Qualification support	This qualification endorsed by BTB Armed Force Associates.	

Qualification Summary	
Qualification purpose	The purpose of the qualification is to confirm occupational competence The sub-purpose of the qualification is to confirm competence in an occupational role to the standards required
Qualification aim	The aim of the qualification is to develop the learner's ability to GAIN and RETAIN employment in the occupational roles of Armed Close Protection Overseas Operative and Armed Security Overseas Operative.
Qualification objective	The objective is to provide a benefit to learners by enabling them to gain and retain employment in the occupational roles of Armed Close Protection Overseas Operative or International Armed Security Overseas Operative. Learners will develop knowledge, skills, and behaviours to enable them to operate overseas legally, ethically, within professional scope. Successful learners will be proficient in: The application of armed close protection and security principles for operatives overseas The application of armed close protection and security procedures for weapon operations overseas The application of armed close protection and security procedures for weapon operations overseas The application of armed close protection and security operations for hostile conditions overseas
Qualification uniqueness	This is the only qualification developed specifically for military professionals and veterans to translate their skills into the civilian role of an International Armed Close Protection Officer. The Register of Regulated Qualifications provides information on other awarding organisation providers who offer similar provision.

Qualification rationale	Across Great Britain, 2.03 million people reported that they had previously served in the UK armed forces (76% in the regular forces, 20% in the reserve forces and 4% in both). This represents 3.8% (almost 1 in 25) of the total population aged 16 or over. Overall, 7.0% of households in Great Britain included one or more veterans. To enable veterans to thrive in their transition into civilian life, they need to demonstrate occupational competence in civilian roles. The Transcend BTB MVP Education Portfolio is comprised of progressive suites of qualifications that are regulated by Ofqual. This portfolio has been developed in collaboration with the British Training Board [BTB] and their talented team of experts. The BTB is recognised within the British Armed Forces as an independent awarding body dedicated to supporting those in service, public servants and their families throughout their careers and beyond! Specifically, the BTB is dedicated to the massive community of British Veterans who served our country with pride. BTB offer a range of programs and services aimed at helping veterans transition to civilian life, including career development, skills translation, and support for those in the Criminal Justice System. They provide lifelong learning and career development opportunities, ensuring that veterans can successfully integrate into civilian life and continue to thrive. BTB proudly run the National Armed Forces Academy and a range of progressive programs designed to enhance career prospects for veterans and their families. The BTB Military Skills Translator is revolutionary for the veteran community. This pioneering initiative empowers veterans to evaluate the scope of their occupational expertise developed throughout their military career. BTB facilitate the evidence collation and mapping of these proficiencies to occupational qualifications recognised by civilian employers. Where needed tailored learning, assessment, quality assurance programmes are delivered to cover any gaps in criteria and role specific duties in the civilian roles. The purpose of the Transcend BTB MVP Education Portfolio is to offer the range of occupational qualifications that align to the BTB Military Skills Translator and the range of BTB initiatives designed to enable the Military Professionals, Veterans, Public Servants [MVP] and their families within their community to thrive. This qualification is integral to the security occupation suites contained within the Transcend BTB MVP Education Portfolio.
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Qualification Structure

This qualification is comprised of four mandatory units. Learners are required to have successfully achieved all mandatory units in order to be awarded the qualification certificate.

Units		AO Ref	Ofqual ref	Level	GLH	DSH	TUT	Credit
Unit 01	Armed close protection and security principles for operatives overseas	BTB-IACP-U01	F/651/5698	4	20	20	40	4
Unit 02	Armed close protection and security procedures for weapon operations overseas	BTB-IACP-U02	R/651/5738	4	10	10	20	2
Unit 03	Armed close protection and security procedures for combat operations overseas	BTB-IACP-U03	T/651/5739	4	10	10	20	2
Unit 04	Armed close protection and security operations for hostile conditions overseas	BTB-IACP-U04	D/651/5740	4	20	20	40	4
Summary				4	60	60	120	12

Part 02: Qualification Delivery Specification

Qualification Delivery Conditions	
This qualification must be delivered in accordance with the Transcend Recognised Centre Conditions and the supplementary Qualification Delivery Conditions outlined here. This qualification sits with the Transcend BTB MVP Education Portfolio and the BTB Licenced workforce, venues and approaches have been agreed as meeting the required conditions. These are subject to continuous review by the awarding organisation to ensure the qualification is accessible and remains valid. The qualification unit specifications must be sourced via the BTB as a licensed practitioner.	
Qualification resource conditions	Qualification coordination conditions
The qualification resources are comprised of: BTB Licensed Tutors, Assessors, IQAs BTB Licensed Training Venues and Facilities	The qualification coordination must comply with: BTB Approved Engagement, Eligibility and Access SOP BTB Approved Agreement, Attendance and Achievement SOP
Qualification delivery conditions	Qualification assessment conditions
The qualification must be delivered in accordance with the: BTB Approved Delivery Models and RPL SOPs BTB Approved Standardised and Personalised Programmes	The qualification must be assessed in accordance with the: BTB Approved Assessment strategies and methods BTB Approved Assessment tasks and marking guidelines
Qualification IQA conditions	Qualification IQA conditions
The qualification must be internally quality assured in line with the: BTB Approved IQA Monitoring Approach BTB Approved IQA CASS Moderation Strategies	The qualification must be externally quality assured in line with the: Transcend EQA Monitoring approach Transcend EQA CASS Moderation Strategies

Appendix: Qualification Specification Version Control

This document is subject to version control. All changes will be tracked here and confirmed as an updated version.

Version	Publication date	Publication details
Version 01	31 Mar 2025	Publication 01