

# Understanding the new Level 4 in Independent Advocacy Practice

City & Guilds are replacing the Level 3 Certificate/Diploma in Independent Advocacy with the new **Level 4 in Independent Advocacy Practice** qualification. New advocates will be able to take the new Level 4 qualification from January 2021 and you can [book your places now](#).



## What has changed?

Grounding across advocacy roles now a mandatory part of the qualification

New Complaints and Community Advocacy units available as specialist options

More focus on knowledge of key legislation across the advocacy sector (i.e. Mental Health, Mental Capacity, Adult Social Care (Care Act), Children & Young People, NHS Complaints and Human Rights)

We envisage that advocates will only need to qualify once through one optional specialist unit, although they can do more if they wish

There is no Diploma for doing more specialist units

## Why has this happened?

The change represents an increasingly diverse and multi-skilled advocacy workforce. Carers Federation has been an important partner in developing the new qualification with City & Guilds. The Level 4 will provide a broader base of knowledge across legislative frameworks.

## Do already qualified advocates need to re-qualify?

**No.** The Level 3 remains valid.





## Any questions?

Carers Federation played a large role in developing the new Level 4 qualification with City & Guilds. With our expertise and experience in delivering advocacy training across the UK we are uniquely positioned to answer any questions about the new qualification. If you don't find the answer below, please contact us on [training@carersfederation.co.uk](mailto:training@carersfederation.co.uk).

## How will changes affect training and assessment?

Candidates still need advocacy case work to qualify as this remains a practice-based vocational qualification. Other than that our high quality training continues.

## When is it rolling out?

New advocates will be able to take the new Level 4 qualification from January 2021. Places are already being booked now.

## How much will it cost?

We will deliver the Level 4 in Independent Advocacy Practice for £1,295. Single units are also available from £845.

## How long does it take?

We offer the same support we did for the Level 3 Qualification as we will for the Level 4: up to 12-18 months.

## Is it available via remote learning?

The course is largely available via remote learning, which due to COVID has been a huge advantage. But we're proud of our flexible approach and as soon as it's safe to we'll be returning to a mix of distance, classroom and workplace assessments. For more information on how the course is delivered, please get in touch at [training@carersfederation.co.uk](mailto:training@carersfederation.co.uk).

