

## IDTA AND RECOGNITION BY THE QUALIFICATIONS REGULATORS

### GUIDANCE FOR IDTA MEMBERS AND STAFF

Ofqual is the regulator of qualifications, examinations and assessments in England. CCEA is the regulator of qualifications and examinations offered in Northern Ireland. Qualifications Wales is the regulator for qualifications offered in Wales.

On 17 June 2011 the IDTA received official notification from Ofqual that it had been recognised as an awarding organisation and we received confirmation on 22 November 2012 that the Association's grade and vocational graded examinations have been accepted as regulated qualifications in the following genres and levels.

#### Graded examinations:

Grades 1 - 5: Ballet, Tap Dance, Modern Jazz, Theatre Craft, Modern Ballroom, Latin American Dance, Classical Sequence, Freestyle.

#### Vocational graded examinations:

Intermediate, Advanced 1 and Advanced 2: Ballet, Tap Dance, Modern Jazz, Theatre Craft

**The IDTA examinations are regulated by Ofqual, Qualifications Wales and CCEA and are described as follows:**

Grade	Framework Level	Qualification title	Credit value	Guided Learning Hours	Total Qualification Time
1	1	Award	7	60	70
2	1	Award	7	60	70
3	1	Award	7	60	70
4	2	Award	10	75	95
5	2	Award	10	75	95
Intermediate	3	Certificate	28	150	275
Advanced 1	4	Certificate	33	150	325
Advanced 2	4	Diploma	38	150	375

All other examinations offered by the IDTA have not been submitted to Ofqual, Qualifications Wales or CCEA for recognition as a regulated qualification.

The framework level, credit value, guided learning hours and total qualification time will assist schools, colleges and universities plus employers to recognise the achievement of the IDTA dance examination candidates. The credit values are not the same as UCAS points. These are offered separately by UCAS for qualifications at level 3 in the framework only.

The new tariff points (available from September 2016) for Graded and Vocational Graded Examinations at level 3 are shown in the table below.

Grade	Tariff points		
	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
Distinction	20	16	12
Merit	18	14	10
Pass	16	12	8

Grade	Tariff points	
	Advanced Foundation	Intermediate
Distinction	24	20
Merit	20	14
Pass	16	8

### Guidance for teachers and dance schools on publicising IDTA qualifications:

The IDTA is an awarding organisation recognised by Ofqual, Qualifications Wales and CCEA to offer regulated qualifications. Ofqual, Qualifications Wales and CCEA set out a number of rules and requirements about the use of its name and how IDTA may refer to its recognised status in publications or on its website.

The purpose of this guidance is to help teachers and dance schools to give clear information to candidates and parents so that they are not misled in their choice of award or qualification.

Use of regulatory authority names:

The regulatory authority's name may be used in publications or on websites (for example referring to IDTA as an Ofqual recognised awarding organisation).

References to regulated qualifications:

Information about regulated qualifications offered by IDTA should be clear. For example a Graded Examination in Dance can be referred to as regulated, but a Medal Test cannot.

Use of regulatory authority logos:

The regulatory authority logos can only be used on certificates produced by IDTA. The logo **cannot** be used on any publicity materials, publications or on websites.

### Theatre Branch Grade and Vocational Graded Examinations:

The syllabus and technique used for the IDTA Theatre Branch Grade exams 1-5 and the vocational graded exams (IDTA Performer Awards) will remain unchanged. Please note only the core subjects at the stated grades have been accepted as a regulated qualification by Ofqual. The gymnastic dance grades and all preparatory and primary grades have not been submitted.

Principals should apply for examinations in the normal manner using the Theatre Branch Request Form and include any applications for reasonable adjustment to an examination for a candidate with special requirements.

Examiners will carry out the examinations in the normal manner and the reports will be returned to Head Office for processing.

The only changes you will see will be to the attainment band structure on the report forms and on the certificates; please see below.

### **Ballroom Branch Grade examinations:**

The IDTA is introducing grade examinations from Grade 1 to 5 in Ballroom, Latin, Classical Sequence and Freestyle.

Principals should apply for examinations in the normal manner on the Ballroom Branch Request Form and include any applications for reasonable adjustment to an examination for a candidate with special requirements.

Examination sessions can include a mixture of examinations eg: grades, medal tests, rosettes, professional examinations.

The Examiner will carry out the examination session in the normal manner, however the way in which the examination report forms are processed will vary. The Examiner will complete the timetable / results sheet for the medal tests, rosettes, etc ., send it to Head Office for processing and leave the test report forms with the principal. However, the Examiner will complete the grade examination report forms and send them to IDTA Head Office for processing. The reports will be returned to the principal for distribution.

### **Rosettes, Stardance Awards, Medal Tests, Social Dance Awards, Team Awards etc....**

These tests are not recognised by Ofqual or Qualifications Wales. The attainment bands for these examinations have not changed

### **Pre-Associate and Professional Examinations:**

The IDTA is working towards submitting its professional examinations at Associate, Licentiate and Fellowship level to Ofqual for recognition; work is on going and we will keep member teachers updated via the Dance International magazine and website.

The level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching will be available from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. Theatre candidates will only be able to enter for this qualification from this date. Ballroom candidates will be able to enter the new qualification or the Associate.

International candidates may enter either the Associate or the Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching.

### **Certificates:**

The IDTA certificates for the Ofqual recognised grade and vocational graded examinations will change. In addition to the IDTA logo the certificate will bear the Ofqual and Qualifications Wales logo. These certificates are especially designed and contain a number of security features to ensure they cannot be forged and each certificate is unique.

If for any reason the information printed on the certificate is incorrect, the certificate must be returned to IDTA Head Office in Brighton for cancellation and replacement, as we cannot accept corrections over the phone or by email.

Certificates for the Gymnastic Dance Grades Preparatory - Grade 6 and the grade examinations in all the core genres at Preparatory and Primary grade will be printed on the standard IDTA gold bordered certificate. All other IDTA tests and awards will receive their normal certificate.

**Report Forms:**

From 1 January 2013, new report forms were issued for grade, vocational grade examinations (Performers Award) and professional examinations, showing the new attainment band structure of Pass, Merit and Distinction. A breakdown of the attainment bands and descriptors is printed on the reverse of the form (as advertised in the Examination Business section of the Dance International magazines during 2012). All other report forms remain unchanged.

Principals must ensure that they have requested sufficient forms, from IDTA Head Office, for all their candidates, for their examination session. Report forms will **not** be available from the IDTA website.

**ULN - Unique Learner Number:**

This will probably not apply to most dance schools and colleges, unless the course they offer is publicly funded.

The Unique Learner Number is a unique 10 digit number supplied to anyone aged 14 years and over who is involved in education and training in the UK. It is the responsibility of the centre (dance school/college) principal to provide the ULN on the report form if the IDTA training course and examinations are funded, or if the candidate wishes their results recorded on their Personal Learning Record by the Learning Records Service.

Dance schools and colleges which offer funded courses (through one of the government funding agencies) will be aware of the ULN and it is their responsibility to provide it to the appropriate Awarding Organisations. We request principals ensure the candidate's name and ULN are clearly printed on the report form.

For further information on ULN contact IDTA Head Office for an information leaflet. The ULN should not be confused with the IDTA Pin Number, which should still be provided.

**Additional information:**

The following documents are available from IDTA Head Office on request, or members can download the information from the members section of the website;

- \* Request for Reasonable Adjustment / Special Consideration
- \* Equal Opportunities policy
- \* Examination Fees List
- \* Malpractice and maladministration
- \* Enquires / complaints / appeals policy
- \* All about unique learner numbers
- \* Syllabus specification, which is an outline of graded and vocational graded examination syllabus. The full examination syllabi and technique books are available from IDTA Sales Ltd at [www.idta.co.uk](http://www.idta.co.uk) follow The "IDTA Shop" link on left hand side of the main page.

**Enquires:**

Please contact Liz Murphy (Assistant Chief Executive) at IDTA Head Office if you have any questions email: [lizi@idta.co.uk](mailto:lizi@idta.co.uk) or [l.murphy@idta.co.uk](mailto:l.murphy@idta.co.uk) or tel: 01273 685652. Head Office hours are Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm (lunch 12.30-1.00 pm).

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