

EQF/MQF LEVEL 4

Award in Supporting Individuals with Disabilities

Contact Hours: 60

Placement Hours: 55

Self Study Hours: 141

Assessment Hours: 44

Total Learning Hours: 300

LW/HSC/004

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course builds on existing knowledge and experience and is aimed at equipping the student with advanced knowledge, skills and competences required to work and progress in the caring profession within the disability sector. The overall objectives of this Award are to engage students in learning what is relevant to their profession and to further, develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes necessary for a successful career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course programme, students will be able to:

- Understand the context of supporting individuals with disabilities
- Understand the importance of diversity, equality and inclusion.
- Understand the context of supporting skills for everyday life.
- Understand principles for supporting independence in the tasks of daily living.
- Understand the role that leisure activities play in a disability setting.
- Understand the role of learning and development activities in meeting the needs of a person with a disability.
- Understand the importance of reflection on, evaluation and improvement of personal and professional practice.
- Use effective communication and build relationships in disability support.
- Support individuals to identify and plan for leisure activities.
- Facilitate learning and development activities with individuals.
- Support individuals to manage their finances.
- Effective team and joint working in disability support.
- Raising awareness of disabilities.

- Promote communication in health care settings.
- Promote and implement health and safety in health and social care.

TARGET CANDIDATES

The Award, is aimed at students who already possess a Level 3 qualification in health and social care or relevant experience. It is also aimed at those wishing to develop their knowledge and skills at a higher level in order to progress in their career, and towards supporting individuals with disabilities and challenging behaviours.

DURATION 3 months

CREDIT VALUE 12 ECTS/ECVET

MODE OF TRAINING Lectures and workshops

ASSESSMENT Assignments, Case studies, Portfolio of evidence

AWARDING BODY Learning Works

LECTURERS

Dr Alexei Sammut

Ms Maria Balzan

Mr Noel Borg

Ms Sharon Balzan

COURSE STRUCTURE

MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE CONTEXT OF SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (1 ECTS)

The module, explores the meaning of disability and considers issues closely linked with disability support. These include: an awareness of how the attitudes and beliefs of others influence individuals who have disabilities. In fact, it explores themes of inclusion, human rights, advocacy, empowerment and active participation and also considers the central place of communication in working with individuals who have disabilities.

MODULE 2: COMMUNICATION IN A DISABILITY SETTING (3 ECTS)

This module aims to enable the learner to make use of effective communication skills in order to develop and sustain relationships with service users, carers and colleagues. It also looks at ways at how to adequately support service users in building and managing their social networks. Since, the strength of an individual's social network, is a key contributor in maintaining an individual's well-being and mental health. Additionally, it provides the learner with the knowledge and skills that address personal interaction and the use of specific methods and aids to promote communication.

MODULE 3: MANAGING RISK, EMERGENCY AND CRISIS IN A DISABILITY SUPPORT SETTING (2 ECTS)

The module delves in the area of risk management through providing the learner with the knowledge and skills required to effectively analyse and mitigate risk within the context of disability support. The unit also looks at the procedures and mechanisms available for the support of an individual with a disability in an emergency or in a crisis situation.

MODULE 4: ETHICS IN A DISABILITY SUPPORT SETTING (1 ECTS)

This module introduces students to the ethical principles, and moral dilemmas within the context of supporting individuals with disabilities and how these are reflected in the legislation context. In parallel, the unit will focus on the important themes related to an ethical approach. These include: dignity, quality of life and the rights of the individual.

MODULE 5: PRACTICAL CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY (1 ECTS)

This module introduces learners to the knowledge and skills required to reflect on and evaluate one's own professional practice, with the intention to

identify and develop best practices. The unit also looks at the importance of supervision, feedback and the formalisation of such practices.

MODULE 6: BEST PRACTICES IN THE CONTEXT OF SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (4 ECTS)

This module is delivered through a series of interactive teaching sessions with specific emphasis on group activities. Case studies and work examples will be discussed throughout the unit.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Learners need to satisfy the following criteria:

- Ages 18 +
- Be able to communicate both orally and written in the English Language
- Hold a clean Police Conduct Certificate.
- Hold a Level 3 qualification in Healthcare or equivalent or;
- Have at least 1 year practical work experience in a related position.

For applicants who meet the criteria of admittance by experience only, a basic level of English which is demonstrated through the appropriate qualifications such as an 'O' level in English, a school leaving certificate with English indicated as a core subject or equivalent is needed.

FUNDING

Applicants may get up to 70% of the fee back through the Get Qualified Scheme.

PART-TIME

Lectures are held twice a week in the afternoon on a part-time basis.