

CVE

CARIBBEAN VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
Ministry of Education



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CVQ IN SCHOOLS

The Ministry of Education (MOE) in collaboration with the Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) and the National Training Agency (NTA) of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education will provide students with access to the Caribbean Vocational Qualification in Schools (CVQ in Schools) at the end of Form Five (5) and Form Six (6).

What is CVQ?

The Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) is a competency-based qualification. Students must demonstrate competence in reaching CARICOM Approved Occupational Standards developed by practitioners and employers (i.e. the industry experts). These standards are organised in units. Students may earn unit awards towards achieving a complete CVQ.

The CVQ is available in several occupational areas:

- Agriculture
- Business
- Communication
- Construction
- Energy
- Engineering and Maintenance
- Health
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing
- Personal Services
- Tourism and Hospitality

How is the CVQ in Schools obtained?

Students in schools equipped by the MOE are entered for assessments in specific skill areas. Their subject teachers are trained to instruct and perform continuous in-school assessment. When a student is ready, the assessor/teacher assesses his/her competence. Successful completion of a unit will be recorded and recognised on the official transcript.

The candidate will gain a full CVQ Award when all the units specified in the qualification structure have been accumulated. Based on evidence provided by both the school and the external verifier, the student will be awarded a CVQ certificate by the Caribbean Examination Council.

How are persons assessed for the CVQ Award?

A person pursuing a CVQ Award is required to demonstrate competence in work-based activities simulated in the school workshop/laboratory.

Assessments are comprised mainly of the following methods:

- Observation of performance
- Examination of products
- Oral questioning
- Written testing
- Appraisal of a portfolio

A person can be assessed as many times as it takes to prove competence in the occupational area. Where a candidate has a grievance arising from the assessment process he/she can make an appeal to the Awarding Body.

What are the Levels offered in schools?

Level 1 (Form Five):

Entry-Level: Semi-Skilled, Apprentice,
Supervised Beginning Worker (Secondary School leaver)

Level 2 (Form Six):

Skilled Worker: Technical Specialized
Independent Worker (Licensed, Etc) (College level)

What is the passing grade for a CVQ unit?

There is no pass mark in the CVQ Programme. An individual pursuing the CVQ is deemed either *competent* or *not yet competent* in a unit, and will obtain a certificate attesting to competence in that Unit.

What will the CVQ in Schools offer the student?

- It will offer students certification/accreditation re unit/units award, CVQ Level I/Level II.
- Every student, regardless of ability, will have the opportunity to be certified.
- A broad-based preparation for employment
- Alternative route to further/higher education
- Parallel standing with academic qualifications since CXC is the accreditation body
 - At same level
 - Will complement the academic track
- Real World of Work experience
- Recognized and Portable Qualification in CARICOM/Caribbean Single Market Economy (CSME)

Who conducts the assessment?

An individual working towards a CVQ will be assessed by a certified assessor/teacher, whose work is verified independently by an external verifier from industry.

Who's Who in the CVQ in Schools Programme

● Assessors

Assessors/teachers determine a candidate's competence against National Occupational Standards using various methods of assessment.

● Internal Verifiers (IVs)

Designated Heads of department are trained by the NTA. They ensure that the assessor is performing assessments to established quality standards. IVs are required to sample assessment records and assess candidates to ensure that the assessment evidence is reliable.

● External Verifiers (EVs)

EVs are appointed by the NTA from industry and are independent of the training institution or organisation. They will audit the assessment and internal verification processes to ensure that they meet NTA quality standards.

EVs also witness assessments and internal verifications to ensure that evidence collected is reliable and that record keeping is acceptable.

● Awarding Body

The Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) will award the CVQ in Schools.

Articulation of Qualifications within the CVQ Framework (e.g.)

Where can you go from here?

LEVEL 5 (Executive Professional)	UTT/UWI
LEVEL 4 (Manager/Entrepreneur)	UTT/UWI Bachelor Degree
LEVEL 3 (Supervisor/Technician/Instructor)	UTT/UWI Associate degree
LEVEL 2 (Skilled/Independent Worker)	Secondary Education 6th & 7th Year
LEVEL 1 (Semi-Skilled Worker)	Secondary Education 4th & 5th Year



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