



Special Treatments: Accepted Qualifications

The council has produced a summary of the qualifications and training requirements along with the special treatments that they cover. This list is not exhaustive and is provided by way of an example only. If a qualification does not appear it is for the licence holder to take necessary steps to satisfy himself or herself that the training certificate evidences necessary competence to provide a specific special treatment. You can contact the Licensing Team for further clarification.

Where there are no nationally recognised qualifications for a particular special treatment, or where a special treatment practitioner is relying on experience and training, they should expect to be provided with:

- Evidence of relevant training, and
- Reference and evidence of past work and proof of when and where their apprenticeship or training was undertaken.

At present there are no nationally or internationally recognised qualifications for the following special treatments:

- Body piercing;
- Floatation tanks;
- Tattooing; and
- Ultra violet tanning.

Qualifications gained overseas will have to be submitted by the therapist/practitioner to UK ENIC www.enic.org.uk – for a qualification comparison to be completed and a statement of comparability provided to support application to provide those treatments.

The table below sets out the minimum acceptable qualifications for many special treatments. If the treatment you wish to offer is not listed please contact your Local Authority with details of what you wish to offer so they can advise you on acceptable qualifications.

Type of treatment	Minimum qualification accepted
Acupuncture	CNM Diploma in Acupuncture, BSc(Hons) Acupuncture, Traditional Chinese Medicine BSc (Hons), Acupuncture MSc, Professional Licentiate in Acupuncture (Lic.Ac.).
Advanced Electrolysis	Equivalent to Level 4 qualification. Sterex 2 day Advanced Electrolysis Course Sterex Advanced Cosmetic Procedures using Electrolysis Course Courses approved by BIAE for Advanced Electrolysis
Cosmetic Piercing including; beading, bio skin jetting, micro dermal anchors	No accredited qualifications available. You must be able to either 1) provide evidence including references of 2 years experience OR 2) provide evidence that you are training with a cosmetic piercer that has had at least 2 years experience. All piercers wishing to be on a licence must pass RBG Infection Control Questionnaire.
Ear Piercing	VTCT Level 2 Award in Ear Piercing (QCF), Cosmetic piercers meeting standards set out for ‘Cosmetic Piercing’ (above) do not need to hold this qualification for ear piercing.
Electrolysis / Electrical epilation (Hair removal)	CIBTAC Level 3 Certificate In Electrical Epilation (QCF), ITEC Level 3 Certificate in Epilation, VTCT Level 3 Certificate in Epilation, CIBTAC Level 3 Certificate in Epilation, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Epilation (VRQ). Other accredited Level 3 beauty qualifications such as the ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy where the ‘Provide Electrical Epilation’ unit has been completed as part of the course.
Laser / IPL	ITEC Level 4 Diploma In Laser and Light Treatments, CIBTAC Level 4 Certificate In Laser and Light Skin Rejuvenation (QCF), VTCT Level 4 Award in Laser and Light Treatments for Skin Rejuvenation (QCF), ITEC Level 4 Diploma in Laser and Intense Pulsed Light Treatments, IAO Level 4 Certificate In Laser and Intense Pulsed Light Treatments (RQF), City & Guilds Level 4 Award In Laser and Light Treatment for Skin Rejuvenation (QCF), VTCT Level 4 Certificate in Laser and Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) Treatments, City & Guilds Level 4 Award In Laser and Light Treatment for Hair Removal (QCF), ITEC Level 4 Certificate in Laser and Light Treatments for Skin Rejuvenation, City & Guilds Level 4 Award In Laser and Light Treatment for Hair Removal (QCF), CIBTAC Level 4 Certificate In Laser and Light Hair Removal (QCF) PLUS ‘Core of Knowledge’ training.
Manicures	VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Nail Technology (QCF), VTCT Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services (QCF), ITEC Level 2 Certificate in Nail Technology, CIBTAC Level 2 Award in Providing Manicure Services, City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Beauty Therapy, Focus Awards Level 2 Certificate in Nail

	Treatments, ITEC Level 2 Award in Provide Manicure Treatments, ITEC Level 2 Certificate in Manicure, VTCT Level 2 NVQ Award in Providing Manicure Services (QCF), City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Manicure (QCF)
<p>Massage</p> <p><i>If the qualification held is in a specific type of massage then that is the only type you will be permitted to offer.</i></p> <p><i>Where a general massage qualification is held you will be permitted to offer all types of massage as covered by your course syllabus.</i></p>	VTCT Level 3 Diploma in Massage Therapies, ITEC Level 3 Certificate in Body Massage, VTCT Level 3 Certificate in Stone Therapy Massage, ITEC Diploma in Beauty and Massage Therapy, TQUK Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy - Massage (RQF), ITEC Level 3 Diploma In Facial and Body Massage Treatments, CIBTAC Level 3 Certificate In Massage Techniques, VTCT Level 3 Certificate in Thai Massage, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Massage Therapies, VTCT Level 3 Diploma in Massage Therapy, ITEC Level 3 Award in Body Massage, VTCT Level 3 Certificate in Swedish Massage, City & Guilds Level 3 Award in Indian Head Massage (QCF), City & Guilds Level 3 Award in Body Massage (QCF), VTCT Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy Massage (QCF), ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Stone Therapy Massage (VRQ), ITEC Level 3 Award in Indian Head Massage, CIBTAC Level 3 Award In Indian Head Massage (QCF), CIBTAC Level 3 Certificate In Stone Therapy Massage (QCF), VTCT Level 3 Certificate in Beauty Therapy Studies (Massage), VTCT Level 3 Extended Diploma in Massage Therapies, ITEC Level 3 Award in Stone Therapy Massage, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Indian Head Massage (VRQ), VTCT Level 3 Certificate in Indian Head Massage, VTCT Level 3 NVQ Award in Indian Head Massage (QCF), CIBTAC Level 3 Award In Body Massage (QCF), ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Massage and Electrotherapy Treatments, ITEC Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy Massage, ITEC Level 3 Award in Massage using Pre-Blended Aromatherapy Oils, VTCT Level 3 Certificate in Massage Using Pre-Blended Aromatherapy Oils, CIBTAC Level 3 Diploma In Massage Techniques and Beauty Therapy Services, City & Guilds Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy - Massage (QCF)
Micro-pigmentation, Semi permanent make-up	ITEC Level 4 Certificate In Micro-Pigmentation Treatment, ITEC Level 4 Award In Micro-Pigmentation Treatment, City & Guilds Level 4 Award in Enhance Appearance using Micro-Pigmentation Treatment (QCF), VTCT Level 4 Certificate in Micropigmentation (QCF).
Nail Extensions	VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Nail Technology (QCF), VTCT Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services (QCF), City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Nail Treatments, Focus Awards Level 2 Certificate in Nail Technology, CIBTAC Level 3 Certificate in Nail Technologies, ITEC Level 2 Certificate in Nail Technology.
Pedicures	ITEC Level 2 Certificate in Nail Technology, CIBTAC Level 2 Award in Providing Pedicure Services, City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Beauty Therapy, Focus Awards Level 2 Certificate in Nail Treatments, VTCT Level 2 NVQ Award in Providing Pedicure Services (QCF).

Steam rooms/ Spa pools/ Water baths / Sauna	Sports management Sauna/Steam room training (ISRM), ITEC Level 3 diploma in Spa Treatments, Documented specific manufacturer training for the facility offered in your premises. Must include evidence of understanding and implementation of Legionella controls.
Tattooing	No accredited qualifications available. You must be able to either 1) provide evidence including references of 2 years experience OR 2) provide evidence that you are training with a tattooist that has had at least 2 years experience. All tattooists wishing to be on a licence must pass RBG Infection Control Questionnaire.
Ultra Violet tanning (Sunbeds)	The Sunbed Association training package, VCTC Level 2 Award in Skin Tanning Techniques, NVQ unit BT30 Provide UV Tanning Treatments, ITEC Level 2 Award in Apply Skin Tanning Techniques, ITEC Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy General with optional unit Provide UV Tanning Services, Focus Awards Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy with optional 'Provide UV Tanning' unit completed.
Electrical treatments	ITEC Level 3 Certificate in Body Electrical Treatments, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Massage and Electrotherapy Treatments, ITEC NVQ Level 3 Apprenticeship in Spa Therapy, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Beauty and Massage Therapy, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Beauty and Spa Therapy, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Facial and Body Massage Treatments, ITEC Level 3 Diploma in Advanced Beauty Therapy, VTCT Level 3 Extended Diploma in Beauty Therapy, VTCT Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy General (QCF), CIBTAC Level Three Award in Facial Electrical Treatments, CIBTAC Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy Treatments, CIBTAC Level Three Diploma in Electrotherapy Treatments; Focus Awards Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy Studies as long as the units 'Provide facial electrotherapy treatments' and 'Provide body electrotherapy treatments' have been completed.