



AIM Qualifications

Level 4 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy
(603/2793/5)

“

I would like to convey my thanks to you all at AIM for the support and guidance you have provided during our first year as a training centre. I am aware we have asked a lot of questions and sent a lot of emails and you have dealt with every query swiftly and efficiently combined with a lot of patience.

It has been a roller coaster of a year setting up everything from scratch but it has been made easier by having access to you all.

Carol Harmston, AIM Centre

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Document Version History

Version Number	Date	Description
3	September 2019	- Re-branded Document. 'AIM Awards' changed to 'AIM Qualifications' - Qualification family added to qualifications details grid (<i>see page 4</i>)
4	March 2020	- Added missing paragraph to introduction (<i>see page 3</i>)
5	December 2021	- Operational start date changed from 01/01/18 to 01/12/17 (<i>see page 4</i>)



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Introduction

Welcome to the AIM Qualifications Level 4 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy Qualification Handbook. This Handbook contains everything you need to know about these qualifications and is intended for Tutors, Assessors, Internal Verifiers and other staff involved with the planning, delivery and assessment.

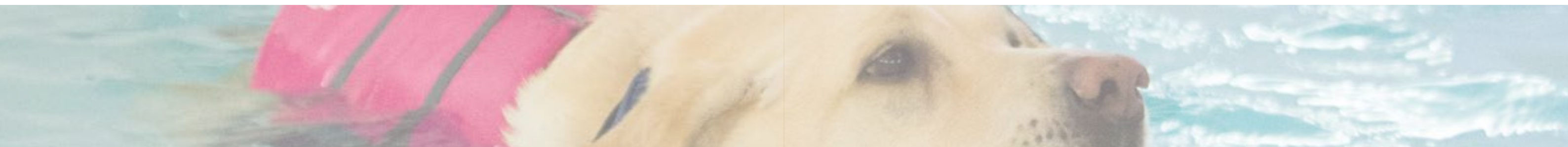
This is a live document and as such will be updated when required. You will be informed via email when changes are made and it is your responsibility to ensure the most up-to-date version of the Qualification Handbook is in use.

About Us

We are a national Awarding Organisation, offering a large number of Ofqual regulated qualifications at different levels and in a wide range of subject areas. Our qualifications are flexible enough to be delivered in a range of settings, from small providers to large colleges and in the workplace both nationally and internationally.

We pride ourselves on offering the best possible customer service, and are always on hand to help if you have any questions. Our organisational structure and business processes enable us to be able to respond quickly to the needs of customers to develop new products that meet their specific needs.

We are also licensed by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) to approve and certificate Access to Higher Education Diplomas.



Qualification Overview

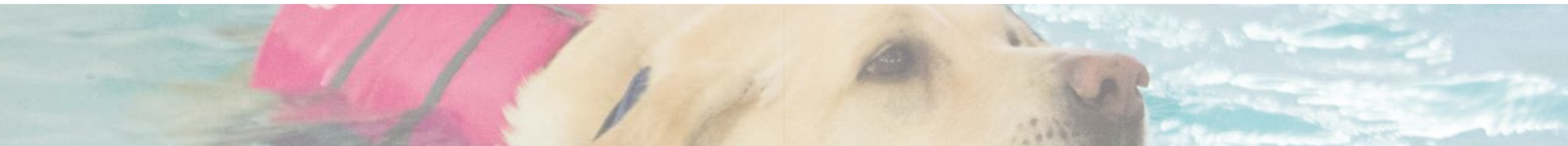
Section One

About these Qualifications

The AIM Qualifications Level 4 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy Qualification has been developed by a team of industry experts for learners who have completed the Level 3 Diploma in Hydrotherapy for Small Animals. It has been developed at the request of the hydrotherapy industry, as there is no current regulated path to follow to take learners any higher than a Level 3 qualification. A high percentage of hydrotherapists own their own centres, and therefore manage staff, run daily activities, carry out advanced hydrotherapy techniques and deal with pet owners and members of the veterinary profession daily. Having a level 4 qualification will allow recognition for those carrying out these activities, and will also increase standards and morale among the sector.

The AIM Level 4 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy Qualification is a regulated qualification recognised by Ofqual within the RQF (Regulated Qualifications Framework). This is the only qualification of its kind worldwide.

The AIM Level 4 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy Qualification is offered as an online course, this enables learners to fit their studies around their other commitments. Intensive practical training is included in this qualification. This takes the form of five days practical placement at the Witney, Oxfordshire branch of Woozelbears, an established canine hydrotherapy centre. This centre has top of the range equipment including underwater treadmills, large bespoke pools, a hydrotherapy spa and a team of highly qualified personnel.



Qualification Details

Qualification	
AIM Qualifications Level 4 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy	
Qualification Family	Professional
Assessment	Internally set, internally marked and externally verified portfolio of evidence
Grading	Pass/Fail
Progression Opportunities	Higher Education where applicable - Veterinary Physiotherapy, Higher Level Hydrotherapy, Animal Science
Geographical Coverage	England
Operational Start Date	01/12/2018
Review Date	31/07/2022
Sector	3.3 Animal Care and Veterinary Science
Qualification Number	603/2793/5
Learning Aim Reference	60327935
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	660
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	810
Learner Age	N/A
Rules of Combination	Learners must achieve all essential components to achieve this qualification.

Total Qualification Time and Guided Learning Hours

Total Qualification Time (TQT) is the number of notional hours it takes a typical learner to achieve the full qualification and is made up of two elements:

- the minimum number of Qualification Guided Learning Hours (GLH) - the number of Tutor-led contact hours
- the number of hours spent on preparation, studying and the assessment that is non-guided

For example, the number of tutor-led contact hours (GLH) for a qualification is 30 and the number of hours spent by the learner (non-GLH) on preparation, studying and the assessment is 6 hours. Therefore the Total Qualification Time (TQT) for the qualification is 36 hours.

Progression Opportunities

Higher Education where applicable - Veterinary Physiotherapy, Higher Level Hydrotherapy, Animal Science

Entry Guidance

Learners must have completed the Level 3 Diploma in Hydrotherapy for Small Animals.

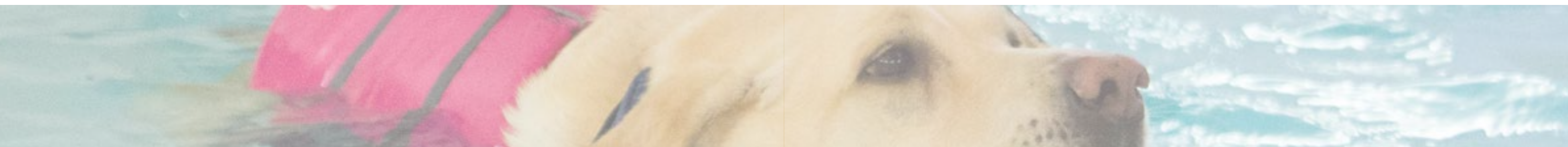
Qualification Dates

The qualification review date is the date by which we will have carried out a review of the qualification. We work with sector representatives to make any changes necessary to meet sector needs and to reflect recent developments. In most cases, we'll extend the qualification and set a new review date. If we make a decision to withdraw a qualification, we'll set an operational end date.

We will post information relating to changes or extensions to qualifications on our website and centres approved to offer the qualification will be kept updated. The certification end date will be three years from the operational end date.

Resource Requirements

Learners must have access to a hydrotherapy centre registered with either CHA or NARCH. simulation is allowed.



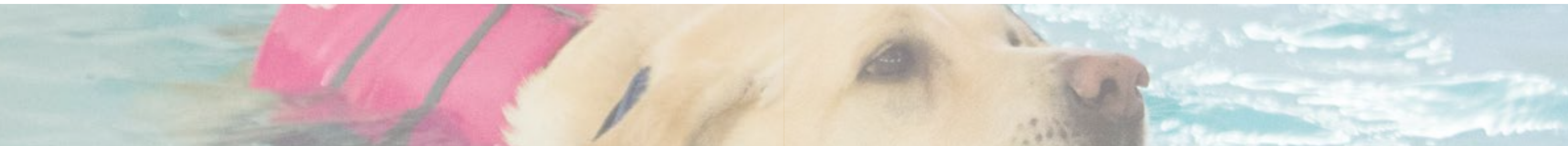
Qualification Structure and Components

Section Two

Qualification Structure and Components

This section details the rules of combinations for this qualification. Select the component titles to view the component details.

Rules of combination for: AIM Qualifications Level 4 Diploma in Small Animal Hydrotherapy			
Learners must achieve all essential components to achieve this qualification.			
Component Code	Component Title	Level	GLH
Essential			
D/616/8032	Business Management in Small Animal Hydrotherapy	Four	50
H/616/8033	Canine Behaviour, Body Language and Safe Handling	Four	40
T/616/8036	Foundation of Professional Practice for Small Animal Hydrotherapy Centres	Four	30
Y/616/8031	Applied Small Animal Anatomy and Physiology	Four	50
K/616/8034	Canine Nutrition	Four	30
F/616/8041	Orthopaedic and Neurological Conditions and Surgical Procedures in Small Animals	Four	50
R/616/8044	Water Management in Hydrotherapy	Four	50
L/616/8043	Small Animal Massage Therapy	Four	40
F/616/8038	Introduction to Small Animal Laser Therapy	Four	50
J/616/8039	Introduction to Small Animal Physiotherapy	Four	40
A/616/8040	Land Based Exercise for Small Animals	Four	40
R/616/8030	Advanced Pool and Treadmill Techniques for Small Animals	Four	30
A/616/8037	Hydrotherapy Pool and Treadmill Maintenance, Operations and Equipment	Four	30
J/616/8042	Practical Skills in Small Animal Hydrotherapy	Four	80
M/616/8035	Feline Behaviour, Nutrition and Handling	Four	50



Assessment

Section Three

Centre Staff Requirements

As an Awarding Organisation, we require that:

Tutors have relevant teaching experience and/or a qualification and experience and/or a qualification in the relevant subject area. Suitable teaching qualifications include:

- Level 3 or 4 Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) or above
- Level 3 Education and Training or above
- Diploma or Certificate in Education
- Bachelors or Masters Degree in Education

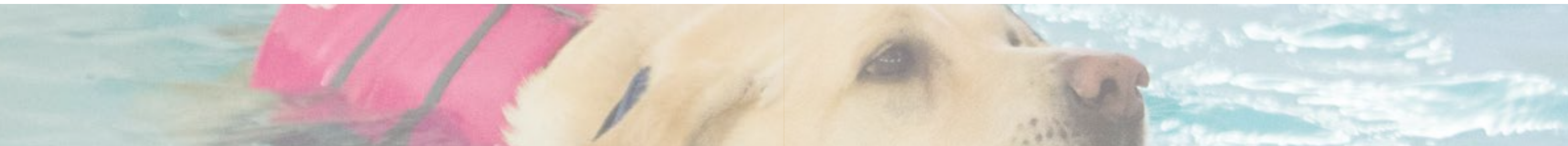
Assessors have an assessor qualification or evidence of recent relevant experience. Suitable assessor qualifications include:

- Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment
- Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement
- A1 Assess Candidate Performance using a Range of Methods
- D32 Assess Candidate Performance and D33 Assess Candidate using Differing Sources of Evidence

Internal Verifiers (IV) have an internal verification qualification or evidence of recent relevant experience. Suitable internal verification qualifications include:

- Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice
- Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice
- V1 Conduct Internal Quality Assurance of the Assessment Process
- D34 Internally Verify the Assessment Process

Individuals involved in the delivery and assessment of this qualification must have relevant skills and knowledge of small animal hydrotherapy.



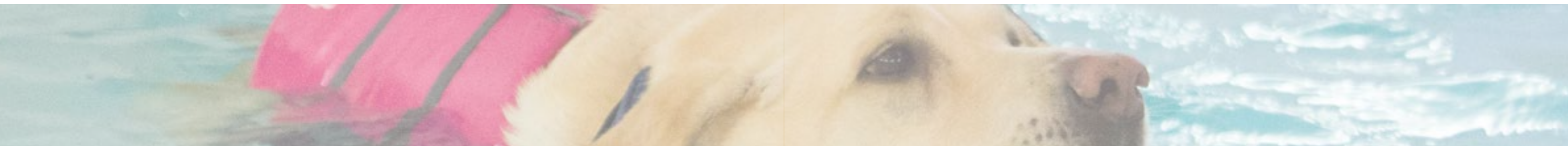
How this Qualification is Assessed

This qualification is assessed through an internally set, internally marked and externally verified portfolio of evidence. Each component is graded Pass, Merit or Distinction. A minimum of Pass must be achieved for each of the components to achieve the qualification.

A summary of the assessment of each component is shown below. Guidance on our expectations is available in the [AIM Qualifications: Assessment Handbook](#).

Components			Set by the centre			Set by AIM		
Component Code	Component Title	Level	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical
D/616/8032	Business Management in Small Animal Hydrotherapy	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
H/616/8033	Canine Behaviour, Body Language and Safe Handling	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
T/616/8036	Foundation of Professional Practice for Small Animal Hydrotherapy Centres	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
Y/616/8031	Applied Small Animal Anatomy and Physiology	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
K/616/8034	Canine Nutrition	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
F/616/8041	Orthopaedic and Neurological Conditions and Surgical Procedures in Small Animals	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
R/616/8044	Water Management in Hydrotherapy	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
L/616/8043	Small Animal Massage Therapy Small Animal Massage Therapy	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
F/616/8038	Introduction to Small Animal Laser Therapy	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-

Components		Set by the centre			Set by AIM			
Component Code	Component Title	Level	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical	Portfolio of evidence	Exam	Practical
J/616/8039	Introduction to Small Animal Physiotherapy	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
A/616/8040	Land Based Exercise for Small Animals	Four	✓	-	✓	-	-	-
R/616/8030	Advanced Pool and Treadmill Techniques for Small Animals	Four	✓	-	✓	-	-	-
A/616/8037	Hydrotherapy Pool and Treadmill Maintenance, Operations and Equipment	Four	✓	-	-	-	-	-
J/616/8042	Practical Skills in Small Animal Hydrotherapy	Four	✓	-	✓	-	-	-
M/616/8035	Feline Behaviour, Nutrition and Handling	Four	✓	-	✓	-	-	-



Offering Qualifications

Centres wishing to offer this qualification must be an AIM recognised centre. New centres can apply to become a centre using the centre recognition application process on our [website www.aim-group.org.uk](http://www.aim-group.org.uk).

We can advise centres of the best and most efficient methods for offering this qualification. All procedures for the use of this qualification, including approval, registration of learners, verification and certification will be completed through AIM and all centres will have an allocated customer experience advisor to support them.

Approval to Offer Qualifications

Centres wishing to offer this qualification must complete and submit a Qualification Approval request (found on the AIM website). Some qualifications require centres to have specific resources in place and/or their assessors/ internal verifiers should hold certain qualifications. Where this is the case, centres must provide evidence of resources/staff qualifications when completing the Qualification Approval request.

Registration and Certification

Once your centre has approval to offer a qualification, you will be able to register learners using the AIM portal. Learners must be registered onto the correct qualification via the portal. Centres then select their chosen components.

For all registration and certification processes, please refer to the portal guidance document which can be downloaded from our website www.aim-group.org.uk. Details of assessment, internal verification and external verification can be found in the [AIM Qualifications: Assessment Handbook](#).

Learners achieving a qualification will be issued with a qualification certificate detailing the achieved qualification and components. Learners who have not achieved a qualification will, on request, be issued with a component certificate detailing the components achieved.

Fees and Charges

The AIM Fees and Charges brochure includes all qualification charges and is [available on our website](#). Please note that registrations will not be processed if centre fees have not been paid.



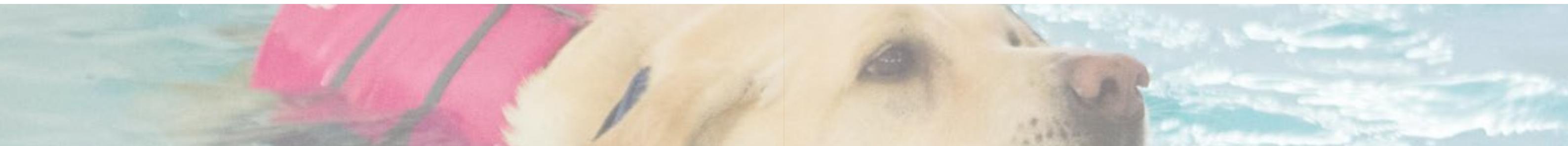
Appendices and Links

Useful Links

[AIM Qualifications: Assessment Handbook
Fees and Charges 2020](#)

Section Five

Appendices





AIM

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