

FOI/16/04/22 Driving Qualifications

Originally, Ambulance training was under the aegis of a National Staff Committee (one of several dealing with non-Clinical areas).

1984, the NHS Training Authority was established in Bristol with Special Health Authority status). Given responsibility for managing all National Staff Committees, including limited operational activities. Clinical endorsement for standards of Ambulance training (content, training materials and assessments) is through the Joint Colleges and Ambulance Services Liaison Committee, a Department of Health sponsored body comprising the Clinical Colleges involved in Emergency Care and representatives from Ambulance Services.

1988, NHSTA assumes responsibility for Ambulance training policy and awards operations.

1991, NHSTA dissolved and its responsibilities transferred to the NHS Executive, who establish an arms-length body, NHS Training Directorate, to carry out the functions of Policy and Awards operations.

1993, NHS Training Directorate is renamed NHS Training Division in 1993 and brought under the direct management of the NHS Executive.

April 1995, following the review of the central management function of the NHS, the NHS Training Division splits into NHSTD (Core) and NHSTD (non-Core), recreating split in responsibility for Policy and Delivery of Awards.

September 1995, NHSTD (non-Core) becomes the Institute of Health and Care Development, responsible for operational activities in 'shadow' form. Core moves to Leeds.

April 1996, The Institute goes live offering the Ambulance Awards and NVQs, the latter in partnership with the Open University.

July 1995, the Driving, Ambulance Aid, and Tutor syllabi are updated.

April 1996, the NHSTD (Core) relocates to NHS Executive headquarters in Leeds. The Institute continues to deliver the awards but under a Service Agreement to the NHS Training Division (NHS Executive).

April 1997, the NHS Training Division hands responsibility for Ambulance training to the Ambulance Service Association (ASA). The Institute continues to deliver the awards under a Service Agreement but now to the ASA, who are 'gifted' the intellectual copyright for the awards by the NHS Executive.

April 1998, the Paramedic syllabus is extended to include Obstetric and Paediatric care.

July 1998, the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine accept Paramedics as one of the registered professions under their aegis; initial register to be formed by those who hold the NHSTA/D/IHCD Paramedic award.

September 1998, the Institute of Health and Care Development is acquired by Edexcel and is re-named IHCD Health and Care Limited. Service Agreement with the ASA replaced by contract. The partnership between the Institute of Health and Care Development and the Open University is annulled.

April 2001, IHCD Health and Care Limited is fully integrated into Edexcel and re-named IHCD. Contract with the ASA is renewed for a further three years in August 2001.

November 2001 sees the first London Ambulance staff graduate from the University of Hertfordshire with a BSc in Paramedic Sciences, through a part-time programme.

2003, Edexcel enters into a 75/25 partnership with Pearson.

2005, Pearson* completes the acquisition of Edexcel; the only exam body to be owned by a private company.

2005, Contract for the delivery of the IHCD awards is renewed with the ASA who agree to 50/50 ownership in the IP of the programmes, assessment and training materials.

2006, College of Paramedics publishes their first curriculum guidance.

2011, contract for the delivery of the IHCD awards is novated (transferred) to AACE.

2015, Pearson announces final registration dates for the IHCD awards.

END