

The logo consists of a blue square containing the text 'YMCA' in a white, rounded, sans-serif font, with the word 'awards' in a smaller, white, lowercase sans-serif font directly below it.

YMCA  
awards

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Work with  
YMCA Awards

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One of the UK's leading awarding organisations  
for health, fitness and wellbeing qualifications

**YMCA Awards create, provide and promote learning opportunities with a diverse and dynamic suite of qualifications, creative resources and high-quality services.**

**Publisher's note:** this brochure describes the qualifications, products and services currently offered by YMCA Awards. Every care has been taken to ensure accuracy but changes may be introduced after publication.

**96%** of centres  
would recommend  
YMCA Awards to  
another training  
provider\*

**96%** of learners  
would recommend  
their YMCA Awards  
qualification to a friend\*\*

## Awarding excellence

Established in 1998, YMCA Awards was the UK's first awarding organisation for health, fitness and wellbeing qualifications. As part of Central YMCA, YMCA Awards is committed to supporting its charitable objective to help people lead healthier, happier and more fulfilled lives.

YMCA Awards develops and awards a diverse and unrivalled range of qualifications and supporting resources for tutors and learners, from introductory (Entry Level) to advanced levels (UK Level 4). YMCA Awards' qualifications are delivered across the UK and internationally, and have contributed to over 200,000 people developing and progressing their careers.

\*2014 Centre Satisfaction Survey

\*\*2013/14 Student Feedback Survey

# 01

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Take the lead  
from YMCA  
Awards

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All qualifications are fully regulated by the UK Government via Ofqual. They are recognised and respected internationally through the International Confederation of Registers for Exercise Professionals (ICREPs) and the European Health and Fitness Association (EHFA). YMCA Awards' qualifications give certificated learners access to the Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs) in the UK, a quality mark of knowledge, skills, competence and professionalism.

**As a recently approved centre, I have found any dealings with YMCA Awards to be professional and efficient. They have been extremely supportive of the centre and tutors, and the quality of the print and downloadable resources has been excellent. I would definitely recommend YMCA Awards to any providers out there looking for a good-quality awarding organisation.**

Simon Bone,  
1610 Leisure Trust

**The qualifications are of extremely high quality, very thorough, and definitely stretch and challenge our students.**

**Lisa Mckay,  
Hopwood Hall College**

YMCA Awards works with...

## Schools

YMCA Awards' qualifications help teachers educate learners in the importance of a healthy lifestyle and provide learners with a first step towards gaining a recognised vocational qualification – a head start when entering further education or employment.

## Colleges

To offer clear pathways into paid employment many colleges deliver YMCA Awards qualifications via Study Programmes, to enhance the learners' main programmes or as a part-time course.

Where YMCA Awards Level 3 Diplomas have been accepted as Technical Level Qualifications for 16-19 Performance Tables, UCAS Tariff Points will apply.

## Universities

Many Sport and Exercise Science faculties are now either embedding YMCA Awards qualifications into their degree programmes or adding them as bolt-on courses to help their graduates gain employment.



# 02

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## Top-quality learning resources

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YMCA Awards offers a comprehensive portfolio of teaching and learning resources for tutors, assessors, internal quality assurers and learners to facilitate course delivery and assessment and enhance the learning experience. These include:

- syllabuses
- learner assessment records
- manuals
- workbooks
- DVDs
- free online resources to support delivery.

### eLearning

YMCA Awards' innovative eLearning packages set the industry standard, using interactive content, high-quality animations, videos and quizzes. The packages provide a flexible, accessible and cost-effective approach to suit any learning environment.

### eAssessment

Many centres use YMCA Awards' eAssessment service to enable their learners to undertake theory assessments online and to provide instant access to learners' results.

**YMCA Awards' eLearning resources are fantastic! They allow our learners to reinforce and assess their learning in any environment; this has proven invaluable for our work-based learners in particular. With eLearning packages our tutors can set realistic goals for home study and revision. Thank you YMCA Awards, can't imagine teaching without it now!**

**Wendy Hobson,  
Preston College**



**「The range of products, services and support provided by the team at YMCA Awards is unparalleled ... it's not so much what YMCA Awards do that makes all the difference, it's the way in which they do it! We just wouldn't get this level of care from another awarding organisation.」**

**Lee Cain,  
Health & Fitness Education LTD**

YMCA Awards works with...

## **Private training providers and employers**

With fantastic resources and support, YMCA Awards' qualifications are popular with private training providers and employers. Further services include endorsing a centre's in-house training, creating a customised qualification or providing training to up-skill staff. YMCA Awards' service enables centres to focus on the quality of their own provision.

## **International centres**

Having established itself as one of the UK's leading active leisure awarding organisations, YMCA Awards is gaining recognition internationally, with an ever-expanding list of centres across Europe and the Middle East. A YMCA Awards-approved qualification enables learners to work in a number of countries across the globe, adding even more value to their training.



# 03

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## A first-class customer experience

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From the moment that any new centre chooses YMCA Awards as its awarding organisation, it is guaranteed a first-class customer experience, helping them to offer a seamless service to their learners.

### Centre training days

To ensure qualifications are delivered to the highest standards, a wide range of standardisation and syllabus support training days are available for centres and their staff.

### Centre eTraining

eTraining is a free online learning solution that offers an engaging and cost-effective way to ensure best practice in course delivery and assessment.

### In-house training

YMCA Awards can deliver bespoke training on-site, a first-class customer experience tailored to perfectly fit all budgetary needs.

### Turnaround times

YMCA Awards prides itself on its competitive turnaround times for service delivery, including certification, results and registrations.

### YMCA Awards regional events

YMCA Awards regularly organise events around the country to provide up-to-date information about qualifications and resources and partner with industry experts for CPD opportunities.

### External Quality Assurance

YMCA Awards' External Quality Assurance team provides a high level of customer care to support, guide and assist all centres, from initial evaluation to the ongoing monitoring visits.



# 04

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## Add value through endorsement

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With so many training providers delivering in-house courses throughout the UK, it can be difficult to stand out from the rest. One sure fire way to get noticed, however, is to have your training endorsed by YMCA Awards, giving it a quality mark from the sector's most established and recognised brand.

**YMCA Awards' endorsement service has allowed us to develop and promote a series of Pilates CPD courses. It has enabled us to expand our offering and give our learners more to aspire to.**

**Claire Baker,**  
YBFIT Training

YMCA Awards endorsement is suitable for all types of CPD, from training courses and workshops, to seminars and master classes.

Endorsement is available for any organisation whose activities fall under National Occupational Standards and in the wider context of the active leisure, learning and wellbeing sector.

I approached YMCA Awards about the possibility of offering a YMCA Awards-endorsed course internationally. The YMCA Awards team provided me with all the relevant support I required, including help with introductions to international contacts. The process to obtain endorsement from YMCA Awards was clear, concise and efficient and I would highly recommend YMCA Awards to education providers looking to endorse their courses.

Aaron Deere,  
Fitness Evolution Education



# 05

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## Continuing your staff's professional development

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To support centres and independent learners in pursuing and developing careers within the lifelong learning sector, YMCA Awards Professional Development delivers Assessor, Internal Quality Assurer and Tutor Training courses.

YMCA Awards' Professional Development courses have been designed with centre needs in mind, encouraging those studying to do so at a time and pace that is convenient for them. YMCA Awards' Tutor Training course is delivered via eLearning, whilst the Assessor and Internal Quality Assurer courses are completed via a blended learning format, combining face-to-face delivery and interactive eLearning.

**The experience was amazing. The help I have received in all aspects of the course was immediate and accurate, as was the face-to-face delivery; the eLearning provided all the information required. The mentor's help was spotless, and having English as my second language made it easier to successfully finish the course. I am looking forward to doing the IQA soon.**

**Meropi Dementrilu,  
Demetriou Dance Academy, Cyprus**



# 06

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## Invest in the future with apprenticeships

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All of YMCA Awards' apprenticeship packages comprise the requisite components of the frameworks set out in the Specifications of Apprenticeship Standards for England (SASE), including:

- competency-based qualification
- knowledge-based qualification
- employee rights and responsibilities
- functional skills
- personal learning and thinking skills.

YMCA Awards has teamed up with an experienced Functional Skills partner organisation, Industry Qualifications (IQ), to deliver Functional Skills. Covering English, Maths and Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Functional Skills help apprentices to maximise their future employment prospects.



Apprenticeships are government-funded work-based training schemes offering on-the-job training. Suitable for new and existing employees, they are designed around the individual needs of your business and lead to widely recognised qualifications.

## Apprenticeship packages

### Intermediate Instructing Exercise and Fitness

This apprenticeship is perfect for people currently employed in the fitness industry, and those taking their first steps as a fitness instructor.

### Intermediate Activity Leadership

This apprenticeship will benefit those who wish to gain a broad yet solid foundation in activity leadership.

### Intermediate Leisure Operations

Aimed at people wishing to work in operational roles in leisure and recreation facilities, this apprenticeship is appropriate for both those progressing within the sector or those looking to adopt a new career pathway.

### Advanced Exercise and Fitness

This advanced apprenticeship is suitable for people who are keen to continue their professional development within the fitness industry and possibly enter a supervisory or managerial role.

### Advanced Leisure Management

This apprenticeship will benefit people who wish to work in the leisure and recreation sector managing and/or supervising facilities.



# 07

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Begin  
your  
journey

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Becoming a YMCA Awards centre is quick and straightforward. Once you register your interest, YMCA Awards will send you everything you need to get started, and arrange contact with our Commercial team prior to an evaluation visit to personally support you through the application.

You will be supported by a dedicated approvals team, who will explain the requirements prior to the visit, provide guidance and support, and the documentation you need to help ensure a positive outcome.

**At FIE we've accredited our courses with YMCA Awards for over 14 years. We chose YMCA Awards for the quality and diversity of their accreditations as well as their international recognition. YMCA Awards has always gone the extra mile to ensure we can deliver the highest-quality courses to our students and continue to improve their service and process in response to industry demand. In our experience, qualifications delivered via YMCA Awards are highly respected amongst industry experts, employers and learners alike.**

**Michael Betts,**  
**Fitness Industry Education**

Get in touch and let YMCA Awards lead the way

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awarding excellence

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