



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 25/24

Delay to the Launch of the new OCQ(V) – Laboratory Animal Exports (LX)

Date issued: 11 July 2024

Purpose

To notify OV's that the release of the new laboratory animal exports course, OCQ(V) - LX, has been delayed but that it is expected to be made available for enrolment very soon.

To advise any OV's who may wish to transfer to the new course of their options.

Background

The background in respect of this new course is fully detailed in APHA Briefing Note 13/24, [Introduction of two new OCQ\(V\)s – Zoo Animal Exports \(ZX\) and Laboratory Animal Exports \(LX\) \(defra.gov.uk\)](#) Please note that the ZX course went live in May 2024.

Action

The action section of the Briefing Note 13/24 still applies to those wishing to transfer to the LX course once it is available for enrolment. However, the deadline dates have been amended to permit OV's time to complete the LX training once the course is available.

If an eligible OV is due to revalidate one of the relevant qualifications (a list of these can be found in [Briefing Note 13/24](#)) for LX before 31st October 2024, they should contact the APHA OV team (see contact details below) before their revalidation due date to discuss possible options that will allow them to transfer to LX once the course is available for enrolment.

Eligible OV's wishing to transfer to LX but who are not due to revalidate one of their relevant OCQ(V)s before 31st October 2024 should wait until the new course is available for enrolment before taking any action.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

Once it is available, OVs will be able to enrol on the new course at any time. Any OCQ(V)s that they no longer require will be suspended when the revalidation deadline is reached and will then be expired after a further 6 months. Alternatively, OVs can contact the APHA OV team to request that OCQ(V)s that they no longer require are expired immediately. This will stop any further email communications related to that qualification.

OVs must note that if the authorisation of an existing OCQ(V) is suspended or expired prior to authorisation under the LX course, they must not carry out any work that requires authorisation of that specific OCQ(V). If an authorisation is expired and no other qualification is held for which ES and EX are pre-requisites, the ES and EX will also be expired. Once the ES and EX are expired, it will be necessary to complete them in full prior to completing the LX course. They will not be automatically reinstated to allow the LX to be completed.

New OVs wishing to enrol on the LX qualification must first complete the full ES and EX courses.

Further Information

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