

Level 4

Level 4 Certificate in Professional Pet-Sitting, Dog Walking, Dog Day Care and Boarding

Awarded by AIM Qualifications · Ofqual 603/5500/1 · 91 guided learning hours · 127 TQT

Free to learn. Certificate when you're ready.

Course content, lessons, quizzes and exams are free for every learner. When Ofqual-recognised certificates are available (Phase 2), the Level 4 certificate will cost £200 (covers the Ofqual centre fee, admin and audit-log retention).

Who is this for

Existing or aspiring pet-business owners, senior staff, franchise leads.

What you'll study

Module 1 — History of Dogs

Companion-animal history, breed development, the role of dogs in modern society.

Module 2 — Canine Communication

Reading body language, vocalisations, calming signals, and the subtle cues owners miss.

Module 3 — Fundamental Dog Behaviour

Learning theory, social development, common behavioural issues, and how to shape behaviour safely.

Module 4 — Successful Dog Walking

Solo and group walks, equipment, route planning, hazard assessment, client communication.

Module 5 — Home Boarding & Pet Sitting

Setting up a home boarding environment, intake, routines, record-keeping, multi-day care.

Module 6 — Canine Enrichment

Designing enrichment programmes, scent work, food puzzles, physical and cognitive outlets.

Module 7 — Canine and Feline Care

Mixed-species households and operations: care differences, introductions, welfare considerations.

Module 8 — Dog Care Preparation

Grooming basics, health checks, nail trimming, ear and dental care, professional presentation.

Module 9 — Client Management, Dog Law & Growing a Business

Contracts, terms of service, GDPR, animal-welfare law, marketing, pricing, scaling a dog-care business.

Assessment

Essay-style assignment per module (500–3,000 words each) plus a 4-part capstone thesis totalling 12,000 words. 13 credits at Level 4.

Common questions

Will Level 4 help with DEFRA licensing?

Yes. The Level 4 Certificate aligns with DEFRA licensing for professional pet-sitting, dog walking, day care and boarding operations in England.

How long does it take?

91 guided learning hours plus independent thesis writing. Most learners complete in 6–12 months of part-time study.

Do I need Level 3 first?

Recommended but not strictly required. The Level 4 is designed for those already operating — or planning to start — a professional pet-care business.

How many credits?

13 credits at Level 4 on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

Is there a thesis?

Yes. A 4-part capstone thesis totalling 12,000 words, synthesising learning across all 9 modules.

When can I enrol?

Sign up on the Visa&Momo courses page to be notified when enrolment opens.

How much will the certificate cost?

Learning is free. The Ofqual-recognised Level 4 certificate will cost £200.

How to enrol

Sign up on the Visa&Momo courses page to be notified the moment Level 4 enrolments open:

<https://visamomo.co.uk/coming-soon>

Questions? Email courses@visamomo.co.uk