

1. Introduction

This document sets out the dates and timings for RECAO Centres and Learners in 2026.

All examinations take place on the first Thursday of the month. Results are issued 6 weeks after the examination date on the Friday.

2. Examination Dates

Exam Date	Registration Deadline (4 weeks before exam day)	Results Date (6 weeks after exam day)
5 February 2026	9 January 2026	20 March 2026
7 May 2026	10 April 2026	19 June 2026
6 August 2026	10 July 2026	18 September 2026
5 November 2026	9 October 2026	18 December 2026

Level 4 & 5 Unit Exams & Resit Opportunities

5 March 2026	18 February 2026	17 April 2026
2 April 2026	18 March 2026	15 May 2026
4 June 2026	20 May 2026	17 July 2026
2 July 2026	17 June 2026	14 August 2026
3 September 2026	19 August 2026	16 October 2026
1 October 2026	3 September 2026	13 November 2026

Certification

E-Certificates

E-Certificates are now issued as standard and are released at the same time as the results notification.

Paper Certificates

Paper certificates are available for an additional charge. Please refer to our published fees document for the current cost and postage charges.

Centre Forums

September 2026 Remote Meeting

February 2027 Hybrid Meeting (TBC)

Centre Self-Assessment

Opens April 2026

Closes April 2026

3. Planned changes for 2026

The new Centre Management System, Quartz, will go live to centres in early 2026. A new assessment platform will be introduced in mid-2026, and we are planning to introduce an on-demand model for some of our examinations by the end of 2026.

On-demand will initially be trialled with a small number of centres before being made available to all centres.