Declared Purpose:

The following purpose is for the Level 3 Diploma in Pathology Support (4223-13), (QAN no: 501/2234/4). This is a Technical Level qualification.

This Level 3 Diploma in Pathology Support recognises the understanding and practical skills to succeed in roles in healthcare laboratories. It is designed to provide a suitable platform from which to take further qualifications or an Advanced Apprenticeship in this area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who is this qualification for?</th>
<th>This qualification is for learners who are interested in biological science and in being a Pathology Support Worker. Learners are likely to already have gained a Level 2 qualification in Clinical Healthcare Support or equivalent. Many learners will already be employed as Healthcare Assistants in health environments.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| What does the qualification cover? | This qualification relates to work as a member of the laboratory team, as a Pathology Support Worker, a Healthcare Science Assistant, or a Medical Laboratory Assistant, providing assistance to healthcare professionals in handling specimens, carrying out testing, and maintaining automated machines. The core units cover the broad areas of healthcare such as:  
  - promote good communication  
  - handle information securely  
  - the principles of infection prevention and control  
  - cleaning and decontamination.  
  The optional units allow specialisation in roles such as:  
  - perform biomedical specimen/sample preparation  
  - perform standard tests on biomedical specimen/samples using manual methodologies or commercial kits  
  - perform first line calibration on clinical equipment to ensure it is fit for use  
  - collate and communicate health information to individuals.  
  The knowledge and skills covered within this qualification are also appropriate to working in other related roles in healthcare, such as Occupational Therapy Assistant or a Clinical Healthcare Support Worker. |
| What opportunities are there for employment or progression after | Many learners take this qualification as part of an Advanced Apprenticeship in Health (Pathology Support) (England). After |
I have finished studying this qualification? Completing this qualification, learners could also study the Level 5 Diploma for Assistant Practitioners in Healthcare to enable them to work in health environments at a more senior level, with an opportunity to take on more responsibility for a range of clinical tasks, which may include management or supervision of colleagues.

Ultimately, to become a qualified practitioner such as a Healthcare Scientist or a Pathologist, you would have to go on to undertake a higher qualification at university to enable you to register as a professional.

Further information can be found on our website and within the qualification handbook: http://www.cityandguilds.com/Courses-and-Qualifications/health-and-social-care/health/4223-healthcare-and-support-services/level-3