



Tai Chi Union for Great Britain  
TAI CHI UNION FOR GREAT BRITAIN

## Progress on the CIMSPA Tai Chi and Qigong Qualification Standards

Many thanks to all who have contributed feedback during the consultation process. This has been used to make relevant changes to the standards, which are due for completion by the end of January – final drafts will then go to CIMSPA for publication.

A number of feedback items could not really feed into the development process of these standards, for a variety of reasons, but primarily because the points raised were beyond the 'Health and Wellbeing' scope of the standards. For your reassurance, we would like to clarify some key points here.

### Purpose of CIMSPA Standards

CIMSPA is the guardian of a single professional standards framework for the sport and physical activity sector. This standards framework does NOT standardise specific techniques, approaches, or styles within any particular role – so, for example, they do not attempt to standardise any particular tai chi style. Moreover, each standard within this framework is NOT a qualification, rather it is a specification of the knowledge and skills that an individual needs to have attained to fulfil a specific role.

Education and training providers will develop qualifications that map to the relevant standard(s), thus assuring the quality of their qualifications. Participants, employers, and other stakeholders can then reliably assess which roles a qualification is for, e.g. Department of Health and Social Care.

### Scope of the Tai Chi and Qigong Qualification Standards

The standards are specifically for Health and Wellbeing, and they are designed to support those that want to specialise in delivering Tai Chi and Qigong specifically in Health and Wellbeing settings. The standards have not been designed to cover delivery of Tai Chi and Qigong outside of this setting, such as martial arts or spiritual development.

### Implications of the Standards

There will **NOT** be any new requirement for instructors to join CIMSPA and/or meet the standard(s). The standards are provided for instructors working within fitness, health, and allied contexts, who want to demonstrate (eg to prospective clients, parents, GPs, etc) that they have achieved an industry-recognised standard. This is a landmark step, giving us for the first time, the ability to provide quality assurance to prospective clients within this important context.

### Recognised Prior Learning

For those of us who have been studying, practicing, and teaching our art for some time, we will have a means by which we can have our skills and experience accounted for (called 'recognised prior learning'), rather than having to (re)do formal qualifications. Further details will be provided on how to do this when the standards have been published.

### Further Details...

... will be provided after the standards have been finalised and issued through the TCUGB/CIMSPA Partnership.