

BS 7671:2008 (2011) and City & Guilds qualifications

Frequently asked questions

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1 General Questions

When are the wiring regulations (BS 7671) changing?

The IET regularly review the content of the wiring regulations (BS 7671). The latest version is the 1st amendment to the 17th edition, published in July 2011, to come into effect from 1 January 2012. The full title is BS 7671:2008 (2011), Requirements for Electrical Installations: IET Wiring Regulations, 17th Edition.

What has changed in the new regulations?

The main areas which have been reviewed, added or updated are:

- o Section 710 Medical locations
- o Section 729 Operating or maintenance gangways
- o Section 444 Measures against electromagnetic influences
- o Section 534 Devices for protection against overvoltage (Surge Protection Devices)
- o Changes to the periodic inspection report
- o Expansion of assessment of general characteristics.

For more details, or to purchase a copy of BS 7671:2008 (2011) contact the IET.

Which City & Guilds qualifications are affected by the changes to BS 7671?

Any City & Guilds qualification which requires candidates to have knowledge of the British Standard Wiring Regulations must comply with the updated standards. This includes:

- o 2382 Requirements for electrical installations
- o 2391-10 Inspection, testing and verification of electrical installations
- o 2391-20 Design, erection and verification of electrical installations
- o 2392 Fundamental inspection, testing and initial verification
- o 2330 Certificate in Electrotechnical Technology
- o 2356 Electrotechnical Services NVQ
- o 2357 NVQ Diploma in Electrotechnical Technology

2382, 2391 and 2392 are to be redeveloped so they are part of the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF), and comply with the 1st amendment.

2330, 2356 and 2357 will continue in their current form, but there may be some changes to unit and assessment content to reflect the new requirements.

How will centres receive information regarding the new and updated qualifications?

All information regarding new qualifications and amendments to existing qualifications will be communicated via the City & Guilds monthly newsletter. Centre staff should sign up at www.cityandguilds.com/update to ensure they receive the latest information as it becomes available. Handbooks and assessment guidance for all new qualifications will be available on the City & Guilds website in autumn 2011.

2 2330 Certificate in Electrotechnical Technology, 2356 Electrotechnical Services NVQ and 2357 NVQ Diploma in Electrotechnical Technology

How will the changes impact on the content of 2330, 2356 and 2357?

2330, 2356 and 2357 will continue in their current form, but there may be some changes to unit and assessment content to reflect the new requirements. Marking schemes will be amended as required to ensure candidates are assessed to current requirements.

How will centres be notified of changes to these qualifications?

All information regarding updated materials for these qualifications will be communicated via the City & Guilds monthly newsletter. Centre staff should sign up at www.cityandguilds.com/update to ensure they receive the latest information as it becomes available.

Which version of the regulations should candidates refer to when undertaking assessments?

Until 31 December 2011, candidates may answer to either the 2008 (red book) or 2011 (green book) version of the regulations. New documentation will be published in autumn 2011, with marking guidance compliant with the 1st amendment.

From 1 January 2012, candidates must answer in line with the 2011 1st amendment only. Centres must ensure that they have downloaded an amended copy of all relevant assessment materials by this date.

3 2382 Requirements for Electrical Installations

How will the wiring regulation changes affect the 2382 qualification?

A new programme of study, 2382-12, will launch on September 30th 2011. This qualification will assess knowledge of BS 7671:2008(2011).

The existing 2382 qualifications (2382-10) and (2382-20) will close on 31 December 2011.

Which qualification should candidates sit for the remainder of 2011?

Candidates who wish to demonstrate knowledge of BS 7671:2008 may continue to undertake 2382-10, or 2382-20 if they meet the stipulated entry requirements.

Candidates who have knowledge of the 1st amendment should enter the 2382-12 qualification once it is launched in September 2011.

Will the existing 2382 assessments (units 100 and 200) be updated?

No, the existing qualifications still assess knowledge of BS 7671:2008 (the red book), and will not reflect amendments made in the 2011 'green book'.

Is there an 'update' qualification for the 1st amendment?

No, there is no 'update' or 'short' version of this qualification. All candidates wishing to demonstrate knowledge of BS 7671:2008(2011) must sit the 2382-12 qualification.

What are the Guided Learning Hours for 2382-12?

This will be confirmed in August 2011.

How will the 2382-12 be assessed?

The 2382-12 comprises of one unit, which will be assessed by an open-book online multiple-choice assessment. The test specification will be published in the 2382-12 handbook prior to qualification launch.

Will existing centres be automatically approved for the new 2382 programme of study?

Yes, centres who are currently approved to offer 2382 will automatically be given approval for this new qualification.

4 2391 Inspection, testing and certification of electrical installations

How will the wiring regulation changes affect the 2391 Inspection, testing and certification of electrical installations qualification?

The existing suite of 2391 qualifications will be replaced by the following qualifications:

- o 2394 Level 3 Initial Verification of Electrical Installations
- o 2395 Level 3 Periodic Inspection, Testing and Reporting of Electrical Installations
- o 2396 Level 4 Design of Electrical Installations

Exact titles for qualifications are to be confirmed, and the above titles are given as indication of content only. All of the above qualifications are due to launch on November 26th 2011, will be on the QCF, and will be written in line with BS 7671:2008(2011)

How will the new qualifications be assessed?

2394 will be assessed by one practical assignment (set by City & Guilds, marked by the centre), and one knowledge test, details TBC.

2395 will be assessed by one practical assignment (set by City & Guilds, marked by the centre), and one dated entry question paper, which will be available on a set number of dates throughout the year, and marked by City & Guilds.

2396 will be assessed by one assignment project (set by City & Guilds, marked by the centre), and one dated entry question paper, which will be available on a set number of dates throughout the year, and marked by City & Guilds.

What resources will centres need for the practical assessments?

All resource requirements for practical assessments will be made available to approved centres by October 2011. As much as possible those centres offering existing City & Guilds qualifications will be able to utilise existing test rigs and materials.

When will more information be available?

The new qualification handbooks, including the syllabus, test specifications, assessor requirements and resource requirements, will be published on the City & Guilds website by October 2011.

What are the Guided Learning Hours for 2394, 2395 and 2396?

This will be confirmed in August 2011.

How long will the 2391 qualifications remain?

2391 closes for new registrations on 31 December 2011, with a final certification date of 31 December 2013. Dated entry examinations will continue to be available until the summer of 2012, exact final date of the 301 and 303 examinations to be confirmed.

Which version of the regulations should candidates apply knowledge of when undertaking 2391 assessments?

Until 31 December 2011, candidates may answer to either the 2008 (red book) or 2011 (green book) version of the regulations.

From 1 January 2012, candidates must answer in line with the 2011 1st amendment only.

Will existing centres be automatically approved for the new qualifications?

Fast-track or automatic approval may be available for some or all of the new inspection and testing qualifications. Details will be provided shortly via the **website**, handbook, and **monthly newsletter**.

Can 2391 units be used towards achievement of the 2394, 2395 or 2396?

It is not anticipated that candidates who hold 2391 units will be able to use these towards the new qualifications. Candidates who have achieved one of the 2391 units but not completed the full qualification should ensure they complete the remaining unit prior to the final certification date.

Please note that the 2391-301 and 2391-303 exams are not likely to continue beyond mid-2012, although this is subject to demand. They may continue beyond this date, but with a reduced number of examinations per year.

5 Other electrical qualifications

Are any changes being made to the 2392 Fundamental inspection, testing and initial verification qualification?

The 2392 qualification will be migrating to the QCF in late 2011, with very few changes to content or the assessments. More details will be released in autumn 2011.

When will the 2377 Code of Practice for In-Service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment qualification be updated?

The 2377 qualification will migrate to the QCF in October 2011. 2377-11 and 2377-12 close for registrations on 31 December 2011. The new programmes of study are:

2377-22 Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment

2377-32 Management of Electrical Equipment Maintenance.

Exact titles for qualifications are to be confirmed. There are minimal changes to the existing content and assessment. The practical assessment for candidates undertaking the qualification in carrying out In-Service Inspection and Testing will now be a short formal assessment, with guidance and marking criteria to be stipulated by City & Guilds. More information regarding this qualification will be published in September 2011.

Is 2393 Building Regulations for Electrical Installations in Dwellings migrating to the QCF?

At present there are no plans to migrate the 2393 qualification to the QCF.

When is the 'domestic installer' qualification due to launch?

SummitSkills has developed a new NVQ Diploma for electricians who only undertake domestic installation, rather than industrial and commercial work. This incorporates many units from the existing 2357 NVQ Diploma in Electrotechnical Technology.

The new qualification is due to launch in January 2012. More information will be available via the **City & Guilds website**, and the **monthly newsletter**.