

Questions and Answers

Transitioning to the new Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle) apprenticeship standards

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Are gateways mandatory?

The gateways were mandatory in the original assessment plan, which has been reviewed and is pending approval by the Institute for Apprenticeships (IfA). According to the new requirements, the gateways are optional not mandatory.

Therefore, the assessments provided for the gateways (online tests and practical tasks) are optional and can be used for formative assessment to ensure the apprentice is progressing according to plan. However, they're not mandatory.

If not using e-portfolio how do we evidence the 20% off-the-job training? Would a written diary signed by an employer and provider be sufficient and/or timesheets?

It's entirely up to you whether you use a digital approach (for example, using our e-portfolio) or a paper based report. Either way, the objective is to be able to evidence that the 20% off-the-job has taken place for audit purposes (Ofsted). Watch our [webinar](#) to learn more about 20% off-the-job training.

When I have tried to sell this apprenticeship to employers it has been very difficult for small garages who don't have the time to support learners like this as well as spending on the 20% off-the-job. I am often reminded that these are businesses.

That's the reason why we've developed such a comprehensive offer for the on-programme part of the apprenticeship. For example, the virtual learning provides inclusive formative assessments and can be accessed online. The same applies to our [EPA preparation tool](#), this doesn't count to the 20% but it allows apprentices to learn at their own pace, in their own time.

Please have a look at the slide about the 20% off-the-job, the examples provided and the link to a recorded webinar provides you with suggestions to support your employers and apprentices with their 20% off-the-job training.

The F-Gas aspect of the standard: is this the same qualification related to the old HVAC Level 2 framework?

Yes, it is the same F-Gas training required to comply with European legislation. The following current qualification can be used:

- 7543-01 Level 3 Award in Basic Mobile Air Conditioning
- accreditation number (QAN): 500/3336/0
- unit 001, which is Handle Refrigerants meets the minimum requirements of regulation (EC) 307/2008.

How many attempts are allowed at knowledge tests?

The assessment plan hasn't set up any limits to the number of times the knowledge tests can be attempted. Obviously there's a cost involved, in terms of fees, time and resources.

If we've purchased the on-programme support, how can we access the gateway assessments?

The online tests are booked via Walled Garden and the practical assessments are available on our website and are password protected. Passwords can be accessed in the Walled Garden.

Are there mapping (Recognition of Prior Learning or RPL) policies laid out for apprentices that may come onto the standards with previous qualifications?

The previous assessment plan contained some RPL guidance. However, it's up to your recruitment process and diagnostic assessment of the apprentices to decide at which point they should enter the apprenticeship to ensure they complete successfully.

The only requirement for the apprenticeship standard is that the training required lasts a minimum of 12 months and 20% is off-the-job training.

Do end-point assessors need to be re-trained or take a qualification or just rely on current qualifications?

Successful applicants will be trained by us on the independent end-point assessor role. We are currently recruiting end point assessors. Please follow this [link](#) to access the role profiles and application forms.