

NEW APPRENTICESHIP STANDARDS (ENGLAND)

DIGITAL INDUSTRIES

NETWORK ENGINEER APPRENTICESHIP

QUALIFICATION 9648-04

Introduction	The new Digital Industries Network Engineer apprenticeship was approved by BIS in May 2014 and is a new occupation that does not directly replace any of the SASE pathways. New apprenticeship standards are designed by employer groups to be rigorous and respond to employers' needs. The apprenticeship is only available in England.	
Typical job roles	Network technician, Network Engineer, Systems Engineer, Network Administrator.	
Apprenticeship standard created by the following employers:	IBM, Accenture, BA, BT, Capgemini, Cisco, Fujitsu, HP, John Lewis, Lloyds, Microsoft, NCA, The Royal, Signals, Telefonica, The Test Factory, Virgin Media, Visa and BCS - Chartered Institute of IT.	
Apprenticeship level	Level 4	
Minimum duration of apprenticeship	24 months	
End assessment organisation delivery	City & Guilds will be offering the End-Assessment. The End-Assessment will consist of a synoptic project, summative portfolio and an interview which will be marked holistically by the Independent Assessor with a grade of Pass, Merit or Distinction. Independent Assessors will be industry specialists predominantly from employers and training providers.	
Centre approval	Existing City & Guilds centres currently offering (7630-04 AND 4520-04) or (7540-13 AND 4520-03) qualifications will have to complete a Fast Track Form. Existing City & Guilds centres currently offering SASE Advanced or Higher Apprenticeship or SASW Apprenticeship or Higher Apprenticeship IT, Software, Web and Telecoms Framework need to fill out a Qualification Approval Form (QAP) as part of our Common Approval Process. New centres will be required to complete a Customer Application and are subject to our normal centre approval process. <i>(See guidance documents on the qualification web page on cityandguilds.com)</i>	
Role profile	Apprentice entry requirements (including English and maths)	Destinations and progression
The primary role of a network engineer is to design, install, maintain and support communication networks within an organisation or between organisations. Network engineers need to maintain high levels of operation and communication networks in order to	Individual employers will set their selection criteria, but the standard requires that the Apprentice hold or achieve English and Maths understanding and functional application at Level 2.	Completing this apprenticeship programme with its transferable skills will enable progression into roles such as Network technician, Network Engineer, Systems Engineer, Network Administrator.

provide maximum performance and availability for their users, such as staff, clients, customers and suppliers. They will understand network configuration, cloud, network administration and monitoring tools, and be able to give technical advice and guidance.	
Professional recognition	The Apprentice will be recognised for entry onto the Register of IT Technicians confirming their SFIA Level 3 professional competence. Apprentices will achieve at least one current, internationally-recognised industry certification or equivalent, as specified by the individual employer.

Assessment Plan	
Key features	
On-programme Assessment	The assessment is based on a modular series of knowledge assessments - which will include at least one internationally recognised industry certification - taken at agreed points during the apprenticeship programme. Each of these must be passed before the final summative assessment takes place.
Gateway	The decision as to when an Apprentice is ready to cross the threshold from Learning and Formative Assessment to the End-Assessment will be made by the Employer and Training Provider based on their monitoring of an Apprentice's progress. Before the Apprentice takes the End-Assessment they must have successfully completed all of the knowledge modules (including the relevant industry certification) and satisfied the on-the-job practical and behaviour standards.
End point Assessment	The End-Assessment will consist of a Synoptic Project, Summative Portfolio and an Interview. City & Guilds will provide guidance for centres on gathering evidence for the practical standards and behaviours which will contribute to the portfolio.

City & Guilds Support	Our support resources include: • Knowledge Module qualifications: - o Including assignments in Assessment Packs - o Proxy Units to recognise the use of industry certification • Learning Assistant: - o Supports the delivery of apprenticeships to maximise productivity and enhances the quality of the learning experience. • Guidance documents: - o Handbook containing the Knowledge Modules with learning guidance - o Gathering evidence for the practical standards and behaviours - o Preparing evidence to contribute to the Summative Portfolio - o Indicative interview questions • Personal support: - o Subject specific Portfolio Advisors - o Qualification Consultants - o Customer Services Team - o Dedicated Business Managers
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Digital Industries Trailblazer

Network Engineer Assessment Plan

LEARNING AND FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Practical work completed through on-going assessment phase.
Contributions to portfolio from towards the end of the apprenticeship



Knowledge Assessment Modules
Includes 1 or more industry certifications

Assessment Gateway
Apprentice deemed to be ready for the Summative Assessment

END ASSESSMENT

Summative portfolio



Synoptic project



Interview

Apprentice: carries out work as defined by their employer, selects evidence for their portfolio from work carried out towards the end of the apprenticeship and completes the Knowledge Modules.

Employer: creates opportunities for the apprentice to carry out work and produce outcomes; confirms that apprentice is ready for summative assessment

Training Provider: maps and assesses work against the Standard, helps apprentice select evidence for the summative portfolio, confirms readiness for summative assessment. Mark knowledge modules set by City & Guilds

Approved Assessment Organisations: set and mark the knowledge modules

Apprentice: submits portfolio, completes synoptic project and attends interview

Independent Assessor: assesses and grades the apprentice on the basis of synoptic project, summative portfolio and interview

Independent Moderation: quality controls the independent assessment service