City & Guilds Technical Awards

Introduction

City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Awards give students an opportunity to explore specific industries, experience hands-on practical learning and develop related technical skills.

City & Guilds Technical Awards have been approved by the Department for Education (DfE) to count in key stage 4 performance tables. Technical Awards are for key stage 4 students aged 14-16 (in the last 2/3 years of secondary education, in years 9, 10, 11). At 120 GLH, they are equivalent to one GCSE and can be studied over one, two or three academic years. Up to three Technical Awards count in Progress 8 and Attainment 8 performance measures as part of the "open" group of subjects.

What's available?

Qualification title	QAN	City & Guilds code	Approved for 2018 performance tables	Approved for 2019 performance tables
Level 2 Technical Award in Designing and Planning the Built Environment	601/7246/0	6720-22	✓	✓
Level 2 Technical Award in Constructing and Maintaining the Built Environment	601/7245/9	6720-21	✓	✓
Level 2 Technical Award in Engineering	601/7241/1	1145-20	✓	✓
Level 2 Technical Award in Cookery and Service for the Hospitality Industry	601/7244/7	6106-20	✓	✓
Level 2 Technical Award in Land Based Studies	601/7240/X	0170-20	✓	✓
Level 2 Technical Award in Hair and Beauty Studies	601/7247/2	3038-21	✓	✓
Level 2 Technical Award in Digital Technologies	601/7242/3	5220-20	✓	✓
Level 2 Technical Award in Vehicle Technology	603/0310/4	4292-20		✓

How do I get approval to offer a Technical Award at my centre?

If your centre is already an approved City & Guilds centre, you will need to submit a qualification approval form to City & Guilds. If your centre isn't an approved City & Guilds centre, you will need to read the information on the "How to become a City & Guilds centre" to ensure you meet the criteria.
cityandguilds.com/help/help-for-centres/become-a-city-and-guilds-centre

The next step is to submit a Customer Application Form and then a Centre Approval Form. There is a cost for applying for centre and qualification approval, but schools and charities are exempt from the minimum spend threshold and student numbers. Centres will have an External Quality Assurance (EQA) visit to assess the centre's suitability to offer the qualification(s) and support the centre in preparing for delivery.

Who can deliver City & Guilds Technical Awards?

Approved centres can be schools (academies, free schools, studio schools etc), University Technical Colleges (UTCs), private training providers and colleges.

How are City & Guilds Technical Awards assessed?

All City & Guilds Technical Awards are assessed through an externally set and externally marked exam and a synoptic assessment. The exam is taken on a set date and time and contributes 40% to the overall grade. There are two opportunities to take the exam in each academic year. The exam is designed to assess the student's depth and breadth of knowledge using a range of question types. The synoptic assignment is a controlled assessment, set by City & Guilds, which contributes 60% to overall grade. Students have to complete a piece of work independently which is marked by tutors and externally moderated by City & Guilds. The synoptic assignment is released to centres in the autumn term and there is a 12-week window during the spring and summer terms when students have to complete it.

How is the overall grade decided for the Technical Award?

The overall qualification grade is calculated based on the aggregation of the marks awarded for the theory exam and the synoptic assessment. These marks are converted into grades – Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*. Both assessments (the exam and the synoptic assignment) must be achieved at a minimum of Pass for the qualification to be awarded.

Progression

Whilst City & Guilds Technical Awards don't limit a student's ability to progress to a range of courses at 16, they do offer students an opportunity to gain theoretical knowledge, develop an understanding of the specific industry and a number of relevant technical skills.

Where can I find out more?

Visit City & Guilds website: cityandguilds.com and type in the City & Guilds qualification code in the "Search the site" box. You will be taken to the information page on City & Guilds Technical Qualifications. Click on the document tab and then the + sign on Level 2, where you will find centre documents which contain the qualification handbook, sample assessment materials and resource lists for each Technical Award. Further information including FAQs on delivering Technical Awards can be found here: cityandguilds.com/techbac/technical-qualifications/resources-and-support

Resources

City & Guilds has a range of resources available for centres including:
• Teaching, Learning and Assessment Guide
• Marking and Moderation Guide

City & Guilds Technical Awards are part of a suite of Technical Qualifications for 14-19-year-olds.

Level 2 Technical Awards for 14-16-year-olds	120 GLH qualifications not specific to job roles and usually studied alongside GCSEs. Available in seven sectors.
Level 2 Technical Certificates and Level 3 Tech Levels for 16-19-year-olds	Qualifications from 360 GLH plus to develop specialist skills and knowledge to prepare for a particular job or career. Available in 13 sectors. Level 3 qualifications carry UCAS points to enable progression to university.

Questions?

 For all queries, please contact:
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