

## Level 2 End-point Assessment for ST0295/AP01 Painter and Decorator (9080-12) Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Why is the on-programme set at 36 months? This seems a lot longer than a framework timescale.**

A: The duration of the on-programme has been set by the employer group. This states typically 36 months before gateway. Remember, this standard contains much of the level 3 and all the level 2 content under the old frameworks.

**Q: Our college is thinking of running this over 2 years?**

A: The standard states typically 36 months before gateway. This typical duration can be reduced depending on any prior learning an individual may have.

**Q: I am working with an e-portfolio, the way it has been set up is all the KSB are listed on the system to be referenced against evidence - with each outcome there are two evidence requirements similar to the NVQ. Is this correct?**

A: How you choose to set up and gather evidence is a decision for centres.

**Q: If an apprentice is building their e-portfolio does the evidence then have to be printed off and sent by pdf for the EPA team?**

A: Yes. We are not able to access your platforms. This is to ensure we limit any possible data breaches. City & Guilds also store EPA documentation for 7 years for audit requirements to meet EQA criteria.

**Q: If we moved to Learning Assistant would we still have to download and print the electronic portfolio?**

A: Yes, you would as EPA is a separate arm of our business.

Q: Will the assessor and apprentice have access and be able to refer to the portfolio during the professional discussion?

A: Yes, the apprentice should use the portfolio to support them in the professional discussion assessment aspect of the EPA.

Q: Do the portfolio evidence pieces have to cover all the KSBs?

A: Just those given under the assessment method: professional discussion-oral questioning underpinned by the portfolio- in the assessment plan. As much variation in the practical skills should be the aim in the portfolio. You can see what this may include as outlined in the standard. Remember behaviours can be demonstrated through a range of practical skills.

Q: I have an apprentice who works for large companies carrying out typically house building and the employer does not cover all the skills in the standard.

How do we meet this in the standard in order to ensure that the apprentice passes the EPA? Would the college need to cover any practical skills that are not met on site?

A: Training providers should teach all the KSBs in the standard. The expectation is employers will support their apprentices by providing a range of on-site practical activities, just as they did for NVQs. Simulation is not allowed.

Q: How many times can an apprentice re-sit?

A: There is no limit on the number of times an apprentice can re-sit if they fail an aspect of the EPA. However, they must pass all component parts within the 3-month window after gateway.

Q: Where are the Apprenticeship Training Manuals ATM kept?

A: This is on SmartScreen and can be uploaded into any e-portfolio you use. The cost is £350 however this covers as many users as you wish to assign too it.

Q: How do we get the password for the resource pack on City & Guilds website?

A: The password is available on Walled Garden.

Q: Do apprentices have to achieve the theory test prior to the practical?

A: The assessment components can be taken in any order.

**Q: Will City & Guilds visit the assessment area prior to EPA taking place?**

A: Prior assessment area checking visits are not required. On the day of the skills test, the IEPA will confirm that the area is fit for purpose. If they have any concerns, they will report to the EPA team who will make the final decision.

**Q: Can materials in the resource lists be substituted?**

A: Materials can only be substituted if indicated on the resource list. This is done with the use of examples, or the term “similar” or a list of acceptable alternatives. No other substitutions are permitted; this is to ensure consistency of assessment as well as coverage of the standard.

**Q: What are the arrangements for PPE in the skills test?**

A: It is the responsibility of the apprentice to arrive with appropriate work clothing and footwear in line with the assessment venue’s health and safety procedures. Assessment venues should have suitable eye, ear and respiratory PPE available, but apprentices can also bring their own. The assessment will be stopped if appropriate PPE is not available.

**Q: Can apprentices use additional equipment and tools that are not included in the resources list?**

A: The resource list for each task includes a range of tools and equipment for apprentices to select from. No additional equipment is required and should not be used.

**Q: Can apprentices use their own tools?**

A: The assessment plan does not prescribe that apprentice cannot use their own tools. It is City & Guilds expectation that centres will ensure that equipment and tools are available to apprentices as per the resources list. It is not part of the IEPA’s responsibility to check. However, IEPAs will be observing to make sure apprentices use hand and any power tools in line with the task instructions.

**Q: What information will the candidate get on the day of the skills test?**

A: At the start of the assessment, it is the IEPA’s responsibility to provide apprentices with copies of the task, tolerances and drawings. The IEPA will also introduce themselves to the group and provide verbal instructions and explanations. More information on the role of the IEPA can be found in the EPA pack.

**Q: Should the skills test be taken under test conditions?**

A: Yes, test conditions apply. Apprentices must not use their phones, and these should be turned off. Personal belongings should be stored away from the areas where the apprentices are working.

**Q: Can apprentices request replacements if they make errors?**

A: If apprentices make an error, component parts can be replaced but additional time will not be given. As stated in the assessment plan this will affect the overall grade.

**Q: What happens if apprentices lose assessment time by waiting for equipment and resources?**

A: Any waiting time for the technician or other resources will not be counted. The IEPA has the discretion to extend time by 10%. Also, any operational issues affecting a candidate's ability to achieve will be dealt with on an individual basis by the IEPA in consultation with the Lead IEPA.

**Q: Where does the digital badge go?**

A: This goes to the apprentice's email address.

**Q: Am I right in saying that, even though the apprentice is completing some level 3 work within this apprenticeship, they can only gain a blue CSCS card?**

A: The standard is set at level 2 so a blue trade card would be given if the apprentice passes the HSE test set by CSCS.