

Revised Electrotechnical Apprenticeship Standard now approved

The Installation and Maintenance Electrician Apprenticeship is the most successful technical apprenticeship currently being delivered. It has increased starts year-on-year since its inception – **maintaining over 5,000 starts during COVID**, and it has an achievement rate above the national average.

As part of the IFATE review process, following a public and industry focused consultation, this highly successful apprenticeship “Installation and Maintenance Electrician” has been updated and refreshed to enable us to continue to grow the supply of the best qualified electricians. The standard and assessment plan are now going through the IFATE approval process, but we are keen to make you aware of the main changes to support your curriculum planning activity.

The apprenticeship now aligns with the current Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education format which is much more detailed. The refreshed standard contains a full list of “Duties” the apprentice electrician will undertake in their role. The duties are all mapped to the relevant KSBs to help your curriculum planning.

In the refreshed standard the core knowledge, skills and behaviours remain broadly the same but there are some additions of which you will need to be aware since they will be covered in the end point assessment.

Points to note:

- Apprenticeship is lengthened by 6 months to an average of **48 months** to gateway.
- The funding band has been reviewed by IFATE and subject to ministerial sign off will be set at **band 23 i.e. £20,000**.
- The **L3 Electrotechnical Qualification remains integral** to the apprenticeship, more detail below.
- The AM2S will be updated to reflect content changes. Details can be found in the EPA plan.

The industry accepted model is of an electrician gaining core competence through their apprenticeship, and then going on to upskill and specialise in their chosen field. **The refreshed apprenticeship does not change this model.**

But to ensure new electricians are positioned to help deliver our country’s green ambitions including Net Zero we have included new **skills**, such as the ability to install EV charging points in all settings including large scale residential, commercial, and industrial areas. We have also included the foundation cabling and connections skills needed for installation of heat pumps, and solar and thermal panels and **the knowledge** of what green solutions are available in all economic settings. These additions will enable completing apprentices to then top up their knowledge in specific technology areas through further training as part of ongoing CPD.

For the first time we have **also included skills for the digital age**, with new apprentices required to learn and be skilled in the use of business communication and collaboration applications, and digital learning platforms, giving our apprentices additional transferable skills. Our funding submission requested additional funding to cover the cost of software licenses for the apprentice.

Alongside this we are **raising standards by teaching ethical and sustainable work** behaviours as well as care and consideration for customers with diverse needs.

We will continue to provide further updates and more detailed information when it is available. Our aim is that the new standard will be in place for all new registrations from 1st September 2023.

Changes to the Level 3 Electrotechnical qualification

The qualification will retain the current QAN but will be an updated version. The newer version has minor updates to the qualification content and in addition to this for apprentices registered from 01/09/23* in England only there is an expanded assessment requirement. Awarding Organisations will provide a process whereby the 'old' and 'new' qualification certificates are differentiated to ensure the apprentice takes the correct AM2.

****(date likely but TBC)***

Your Awarding Organisation will update you further on these updates, but there are some details you should be aware of now about the expanded assessment requirement (**England only***).

For the qualification units:

- Apply Health and Safety and Environmental Considerations
- Apply Design and Installation Practices and Procedures
- Terminate and Connect Conductors
- Apply Practices and Procedures for Maintenance

At least one of the on-site assessments of performance for each of the above units must occur in a commercial or industrial setting i.e. on-site assessment cannot occur exclusively in a domestic context.

Domestic premises are:

- a) designed to accommodate a single family;
- b) houses in multiple occupation comprising a number of self-contained units, each designed to accommodate a single person or family;
- c) sheltered housing, dwelling units
- d) supported housing.

This includes, bungalows, resident areas of care homes, multi-storey houses, individual flats and maisonettes, apartment buildings, mobile homes, holiday homes, sheltered housing, shared houses and houses divided into several self-contained single-family dwelling units, and student accommodation.

This does not include large or extensive communal areas used by residents of more than one single dwelling. Large or extensive communal residential areas may suffice for the commercial / industrial assessment requirement. Examples of these areas would be large catering kitchens in care homes, student accommodation communal areas such as receptions, bathrooms intended for the use of more than one residential unit, boiler rooms servicing several individual dwellings, service risers or stairways and landings servicing many individual flats, typically with an incoming three-phase electricity supply etc.

Changes to the ranges in the “Unit Apply Design and Installation Practices and Procedures” will be communicated in more detail later, but the list of assessable installations will be expanded to include electric vehicle charging points, smart lighting, smart cameras, heating controls.

Please consider bookmarking <https://www.the-esp.org.uk/news/> for opportunities to join industry and provider update meetings, or following TESP on LinkedIn for the latest updates: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-electrotechnical-skills-partnership-tesp/>

**Changes marked “England only” relate to the assessment and qualification changes. Qualification content changes only will apply in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and overseas territories.*