



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Roads Maintenance: An Introduction to Signing, Lighting and Guarding the Work Area (SCQF level 5)

CODE F55G 11

SUMMARY

This Unit covers essential knowledge and practical experience relating to signing, lighting and guarding in the Highways Maintenance environment. The Unit is suitable for candidates who have had little or no experience to date in the Highways Maintenance environment and who want to gain and apply knowledge and understanding relating to signing, lighting and guarding in the workplace environment. Candidates will prepare and select equipment for signing, lighting and guarding the works area and then the subsequent set up and restoring of the site as well as prepare for the provision, use and removal of traffic control systems whilst complying with all relevant legislation.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Prepare and select equipment for signing lighting and guarding the works area within a roads maintenance environment.
- 2 Prepare, set up and restore the site complying with current Codes of Practice for signing, lighting and guarding.
- 3 Prepare for the provision, use and removal of traffic control systems.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. This Unit is suitable for inexperienced or entry level candidates.

Administrative Information

Superclass: TK

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at SCQF level 5 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5*).

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit.

The Unit provides opportunities for candidates to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ Communication at SCQF level 3
- ◆ Working with Others at SCQF level 3
- ◆ Numeracy at SCQF level 3

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

OUTCOME 1

Prepare and select equipment for signing lighting and guarding the works area within a roads maintenance environment.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Correctly select and check signing, lighting and guarding equipment to suit site requirements.
- (b) Accurately record and report any defects found on the equipment.
- (c) Select appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) equipment for a given task, in accordance with legislative requirements and/or organisational requirements.
- (d) Load and secure the equipment in the correct order for transport to the works area.

OUTCOME 2

Prepare, set up and restore the site complying with current Codes of Practise for signing, lighting and guarding.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Accurately set out the basic site layout for give and take.
- (b) Set the basic site layout for work taking place on the footway for a 24 hour period of work.
- (c) Correctly follow current codes of practice for removing signs from the work area.

OUTCOME 3

Prepare for the provision, use and removal of traffic control systems.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Set out and demonstrate the correct use of stop/go boards.
- (b) Set out and demonstrate the correct use of priority signs for traffic control.
- (c) Set out and demonstrate the correct use of a stop works sign for traffic control.
- (d) Set out and demonstrate the correct use of temporary portable traffic signals for the control of traffic.
- (e) Use the correct sequence of operations for the removal of all signs and equipment applicable to temporary traffic control operations.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must carry out a risk assessment before any practical activity.

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria. The specific Evidence Requirements for each Outcome are outlined below.

Written and/or oral evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidates have achieved Outcome 1. The evidence will be produced under open-book supervised conditions within a time limit of 30 minutes. Candidates must have access to the current Codes of Practice for Safety at Street Works and Road Works.

Performance evidence for Outcomes 2 and 3, supplemented with an assessor observation checklist, is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria. The evidence will be produced under supervised conditions at appropriate points in the Unit once candidates have developed the necessary knowledge and skills.

These Evidence Requirements will be met by the completion of the Assessment Support Pack (ASP) that provides detailed assessment material for this Unit. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the ASP to ensure a comparable standard.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit is a mandatory Unit in the NPA in Roads Maintenance at SCQF level 5, but can also be taken as a free-standing Unit.

Signing, lighting and guarding the work area is integral and key to the Roads and Highways Maintenance Industry therefore throughout the Unit, emphasis will be placed on the application of safe working practices in line with current safety codes of practice and policies and regulations.

Centres may find opportunities to integrate this Unit with others in the Roads Maintenance NPA at SCQF level 5 eg some parts of this Unit could be combined with *Roads Maintenance: An Introduction to Health, Safety and Security* at SCQF level 5. It would be recommended that candidates should have been introduced to signing, lighting and guarding before undertaking practical activity in other Units within the NPA.

Site conditions should reflect as near as possible realistic working conditions.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The learning environment for this Unit will be a combination of classroom and workshop based learning where the candidate will be involved in group activities and discussions. The knowledge element of this Unit would be taught in a classroom environment and put into practice in conjunction with the practical Outcomes.

Candidates should work in pairs or groups on the practical activity, although they will need to meet all Evidence Requirements individually.

Open-book use of traffic management codes should be encouraged throughout practical activity.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Opportunities may arise in this Unit for candidates to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ Communication at SCQF level 3 by interpreting information and reporting any equipment defects
- ◆ Working with Others at SCQF level 3 by taking part in group activities and discussions
- ◆ Numeracy at SCQF level 3 by applying safety zones and distances during practical activity

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Centres may use the instruments of Assessment which they consider to be most appropriate but are encouraged to use the Assessment Support Pack (ASP) developed centrally by SQA. It is expected that candidates will be given as much practise as possible in the methods of safe working practice and risk assessment methods etc, prior to being set the assessment tasks.

A suitable method for assessing candidate knowledge and understanding of signing, lighting and guarding could be through a set of multiple choice questions.

To allow candidates to generate the Performance Evidence centres should set a series of practical assignments which accurately reflect the Unit content.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by information and communications technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).