

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT	Employability Skills for Land-based Industries (Intermediate 1)
CODE	DX0W 10
COURSE	Rural Skills (Intermediate 1)

SUMMARY

This Unit is a mandatory Unit within the *Intermediate 1 Rural Skills Course* and is designed to be taken as part of this Course. It is suitable for candidates with no previous land-based or employment experience. The candidate will have the opportunity to develop some of the employability skills that are valued by the land-based sector including good timekeeping, attendance, safe working and team working in practical contexts arising in the other Units of this Course. They will have the opportunity to review and evaluate their progress in developing these skills. The third Outcome of this Unit allows candidates to consider the assessment of risk in a specific task allowing candidates to develop a greater understanding of the need to consider safety in all land-based industries.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate work practices which enhance employability in land-based industries.
- 2 Review and evaluate own skills developed in practical contexts.
- 3 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the requirements for a safe working environment in a land-based industry.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at Intermediate 1 (3 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4*).

**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.*

Administrative Information

Superclass:	HC
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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Employability Skills for Land-based Industries (Intermediate 1)

CORE SKILLS

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

Opportunities for developing aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in *Guidance on Learning and Teaching Approaches for this Unit*.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Employability Skills for Land-based Industries (Intermediate 1)

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 the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate work practices which enhance employability in land-based industries.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Maintain time-keeping and attendance to acceptable standards.
- (b) Undertake necessary planning and preparation prior to practical work.
- (c) Work co-operatively with others.
- (d) Demonstrate awareness of efficient use of resources.
- (e) Follow instructions from person responsible.
- (f) Demonstrate a safety awareness during all tasks undertaken.

OUTCOME 2

Review and evaluate own skills developed in practical contexts.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify own strengths and weaknesses.
- (b) Identify areas for improvement.
- (c) Identify action points for improvement.
- (d) Respond positively to advice and feedback on performance.

OUTCOME 3

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the requirements for a safe working environment in a land-based industry.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe the common risks and hazards for a work task in a land-based industry.
- (b) Identify measures that should be taken to minimise risk in relation to the task.
- (c) Identify any personal protective clothing and equipment that is necessary when carrying out this task.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Employability Skills for Land-based Industries (Intermediate 1)

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Performance evidence supported by candidate review sheets and tutor observation checklists, together with written and/or recorded oral evidence is required to show that all Outcomes and Performance Criteria have been achieved.

Candidates will demonstrate the appropriate working practices and attitudes in practical contexts. They will then review and evaluate their own performance on candidate review sheets and, following a discussion with the assessor after each review, will produce a plan for improvement. The evidence required will be:

- ◆ a minimum of three candidate review sheets, supported by an assessor observation checklist
- ◆ a minimum of three progressive action plans, each relating to the associated review sheet

In relation to Outcome 3 written and/or recorded oral evidence should include:

- ◆ a description of **three** common hazards associated with a particular work task
- ◆ a description of the likely level of risk for each of the identified hazards
- ◆ a description of measures that can be taken to minimise the risk of the identified hazards
- ◆ a list of protective clothing and equipment that would be needed for somebody carrying out that task

The item for this Unit contains candidate review sheets, an assessor observation checklist and a pro forma in relation to Outcome 2. The NAB illustrates the national standard required for this Unit. Centres who wish to devise their own assessments should refer to the NAB to ensure a comparable standard.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Employability Skills for Land-based Industries (Intermediate 1)

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 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

The main purpose of the Unit is to improve candidates' preparedness for employment in the Land-based industries. To this end Outcomes 1 and 2 focus on encouraging candidates to develop the correct work practices for employment such as good time keeping and team working. Candidates will be provided with an opportunity to review how well they have progressed in developing these work practices and attitudes by comparing their own evaluation with that of their assessors

For Outcome 3, the candidate should be expected to develop an awareness of the basic risks and hazards of working in one particular land-based industry. This may be done through discussion with somebody employed in the industry. This should be at a basic level and help candidates to develop an awareness of the dangers of working in that industry and how to avoid them and minimise risk. **It is not expected that the candidate should be able to do a complete risk assessment for a given task but only to encourage them to consider the possible risks of particular situations.** For example the candidate should be able to see the obvious dangers of handling sheep such as injury and risk of infection from the dirt. However, it would not be expected that the candidates would recognise the less overt health risks such as zoonoses at this level of study.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

Where this Unit is taken as part of Intermediate 1 Rural Skills Course, it is recommended that delivery is integrated with other Units in the Course. It is important that those responsible for the delivery of this Unit as part of the above Course specify and identify where opportunities arise to develop and assess employability skills.

Employability Skills

Achievement of the employability skills listed below will be clearly identified as a result of the evidence generated through the assessment activities for this Unit.

- ◆ acceptable time keeping and attendance*
- ◆ planning and preparing for work*
- ◆ working co-operatively with others*
- ◆ awareness of efficient resource use*
- ◆ following Instructions*
- ◆ working safely*
- ◆ self-review and evaluation*

Core Skills

In this Unit candidates will be involved in reviewing and evaluating their progress and discussing this with their assessor. They will also be gathering information on assessing risks and presenting this information either orally or in written format. These are good opportunities for developing aspects of Communication (both oral and written).

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Employability Skills for Land-based Industries (Intermediate 1)

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

The following Units include tasks which provide opportunities for the completion of candidate review sheets and the pro forma in relation to risks and hazards:

- ◆ Estate Maintenance: An Introduction
- ◆ Animal Husbandry: An Introduction (Outcomes 2 and 3)
- ◆ Soft Landscaping: An Introduction
- ◆ Crop Production: An Introduction

Candidates are expected to show progression between review sheet completion and it is therefore useful to plan the use of these review sheets at progressive stages throughout the delivery of the Course.

The item for this Unit contains candidate review sheets, an assessor observation checklist and a pro forma in relation to Outcome 2. The NAB illustrates the national standard required for this Unit. Centres who wish to devise their own assessments should refer to the NAB to ensure a comparable standard.

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).