

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Construction Safety Practices: An Introduction (Intermediate 1)

CODE F1JP 10

SUMMARY

This Unit is suitable for candidates who have had little or no experience in the Construction Industry and wish to gain knowledge and understanding of construction safety practices. This Unit will help to develop the candidate's ability to work in a safe and effective manner in a Construction Industry setting. Candidates who complete this Unit can feel confident about making good progress on a wide range of practical activities in the National Progression Awards where Health and Safety will always be one of the main priorities.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic construction safe working practices.
- 2 Use safe working practices during construction activities.
- 3 Use the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during construction activities.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at Intermediate 1 level (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: TE

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CORE SKILLS

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving, Numeracy, Working with Others, and Communication at SCQF level 4 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

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 the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic construction safe working practices.

Performance Criteria

- (a) The basic procedures of Health and Safety Legislation as appropriate to the Construction Industry are identified correctly.
- (b) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic accident reporting procedures.
- (c) Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic manual handling methods.
- (d) Demonstrate the knowledge and understanding of methods of using hand-held tools.
- (e) The use of appropriate PPE is identified correctly.

OUTCOME 2

Use safe working practices during construction activities.

Performance Criteria

- (a) The appropriate PPE is worn at all times.
- (b) Safe Manual Handling methods are used at all times.
- (c) The correct methods of using tools are used at all times.
- (d) The correct methods of moving materials are used at all times.
- (e) Safe working practices are implemented at all times.

OUTCOME 3

Use the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during construction activities.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select the appropriate PPE for the task to be undertaken.
- (b) Wear the appropriate PPE correctly.
- (c) Take care of the PPE during use.
- (d) Store the PPE correctly after use.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Written and/or oral evidence is required which demonstrates that the candidate has achieved Outcome 1 to the standard specified in the Outcome and Performance Criteria. The evidence for this Outcome should be obtained under controlled, supervised conditions. The assessment will be closed-book and should normally last no more than 45 minutes.

Performance evidence supplemented with an assessor observation checklist/record should be used to show that the candidate has achieved Outcomes 2 and 3 to the standard specified in the Outcomes and Performance Criteria. Each candidate will be observed in their knowledge and compliance of health and safety procedures including the use of appropriate PPE, manual handling methods, correct use of tools and awareness of safe working practices.

Assessment of this Unit should be completed over a period of time and evidence should be gathered at appropriate intervals.

The Assessment Support Pack for this Unit provides sample assessment material. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the Assessment Support Pack 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 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit has been developed as a mandatory Unit in the National Progression Award in Construction and can also be delivered as a freestanding Unit.

This Unit may be integrated with any of the optional Units in the National Progression Award in Construction ensuring that all Outcomes and Performance Criteria are covered.

The content and context for this Unit is set at a basic level while at the same time developing the abilities of the candidate to work in a safe and efficient manner. Candidate will be required to gain an understanding of the Construction safety practices of the correct use of PPE, manual handling methods, the correct use of tools and work safety practices.

All good workshop and industrial practices require to be firmly established at this stage of the candidate's development.

The learning environment for this Unit will be a combination of classroom and workshop based learning. The knowledge element of this Unit would be taught in a classroom environment and put into practice in the workshop in conjunction with practical based Unit delivery.

Health and Safety and Sustainability are integral and key to the Construction Industry therefore throughout the Unit emphasis will be placed where appropriate on the application of Health and Safety and Sustainability. Safety working practices should be looked at in accordance with current safety codes of practice and regulations. Sustainability should include reference to criteria affecting sustainability, impact of not implementing sustainability on the environment and the legislation promoting sustainability

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit can be delivered alongside any of the optional Units in the National Progression Award in Construction.

The delivery should be based on a knowledge learning approach and should expose candidates to health and safety requirements in the Construction Industry. Learning and teaching approaches should include highlighting the relevant legislation and the encouragement to ensure that these Construction Industry requirements are adhered to at all times in the working environment.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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The candidate is required to develop their ability to approach any practical task in a safe and efficient manner. This will require an integrated teaching and learning approach to be used during any practical activities undertaken. The teaching of how to select PPE for a given task is important. It is also necessary to demonstrate how to locate and place materials in a manner which will ensure maximum safety in the workplace. The importance of taking care of PPE at all times must be emphasised throughout. All of these activities should occur naturally during practical workshop/workplace sessions. Health and Safety must be emphasised at all times throughout the learning and teaching processes.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving, that is, planning and organising, critical thinking, and reviewing and evaluating, will be developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the Unit. Identifying and taking account of a range of factors including appropriate Personal Protective Equipment, available resources, safety issues and sustainability is essential as candidates prepare to work efficiently. Group discussion may be useful in the preparatory stages of practical activities although candidates have to independently demonstrate skills. Individual discussions with the assessor to review and reinforce evaluation of efficient working practice may be particularly useful.

As they demonstrate safe working practice candidates could be encouraged to carry out basic calculations and measurements as part of checking a safe working environment and to keep simple records, including sketches, if appropriate. Numeracy skills should be naturally enhanced, with the focus throughout on practical applications using number and graphics.

Evidence for Outcomes 2 and 3 is generated through observation of practical skills. There are opportunities to additionally enhance co-operative working skills as candidates discuss safety issues and undertake practical activities, if they are encouraged as a group to:

- ◆ identify the main tasks needed to make up practical activities being undertaken
- ◆ agree allocation of responsibilities, building on strengths and preferences of individuals
- ◆ seek and provide information and support to each other as needed
- ◆ referring to evidence, identify the strengths and any weaknesses of their own contribution to activities

Although skills in Communication are not formally assessed candidates should access and present written and oral information to a standard acceptable in the construction industry. Skills in accessing and evaluating a range of sources could also be developed, so that candidates are able to consult current safety law, advice and information with confidence. Formative work for the Unit could include group discussion around case studies of workplace health and safety events. Such an approach could improve oral skills and be particularly beneficial to candidates with no industrial experience. An awareness of the purposes and uses of safety and accident reports should mean that candidates are able to record basic information accurately and objectively, using correct terminology and appropriate tone and style.

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.

The assessment of this Unit can be integrated with trade specific Units within the National Progression Award in Construction. This Unit covers construction safety practices which are relevant to all area of the Construction Industry.

Outcome 1

The candidate's knowledge and understanding of construction safety practices can be assessed through a set of multiple choice questions covering all Performance Criteria in Outcome 1. This assessment should be conducted under controlled, supervised condition. Assessment should show that the candidate has achieved all Performance Criteria and reassessment of any area of this Outcome can be conducted through an oral question/answer session.

Outcome 2 and 3

These Outcomes can be integrates with other Units with in the National Progression Award in Construction. The candidate will be assessed on their compliance of health and safety legislations in the Construction Industry including the correct use of PPE, safe working practices, manual handling methods and the correct and safe use of tools. An assessor observation checklist/record can be used to record this evidence.

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).