



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Aquaculture: Basic Seamanship (SCQF level 4)

CODE F6TD 10

SUMMARY

The Unit is designed to introduce candidates, under direct instruction, to the basic operation of small craft and to undertake basic ropework. This Unit is suitable for candidates with no previous experience of aquaculture, those with an interest in aquaculture and those candidates who may be interested in employment in this industry. Candidates will undertake practical activities under direct instruction and will be introduced to the importance of health and safety requirements related to taking a boat to sea.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate measures to prepare a craft for a passage, compliant with relevant health and safety requirements.
- 2 Carry out safe boat handling.
- 3 Carry out rope skills commonly used by aquaculture operatives.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at SCQF level 4 (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: ZF

Publication date: May 2009

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2009

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this Unit Specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Customer Contact Centre, telephone 0845 279 1000.

National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Aquaculture: Basic Seamanship (SCQF level 4)

CORE SKILLS

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following:

Complete Core Skill None

Core Skill component Planning and Organising at SCQF Level 4

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit Specification.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Aquaculture: Basic Seamanship (SCQF level 4)

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

Demonstrate measures to prepare a craft for a passage, compliant with relevant health and safety requirements.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Under direct supervision, prepare for a boat trip taking account of weather and water conditions, regulations pertaining to boats and the navigability of the planned route.
- (b) Under direct supervision, prepare the boat for going afloat ensuring all necessary equipment is safe and fully operational.
- (c) Under direct supervision, make personal preparations for going afloat taking full account of all appropriate safety considerations.

OUTCOME 2

Carry out safe boat handling.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Under direct supervision, correctly load and balance a craft to ensure safety of the craft and crew.
- (b) Carry out safe boat handling and manoeuvring skills according to given instructions and under direct supervision.
- (c) Describe the effect of the actions of other water users on the operation or handling of a specific type of craft.

OUTCOME 3

Carry out rope skills commonly used by aquaculture operatives.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Perform secure knot ties and hitches.
- (b) Splice a rope ensuring a secure join.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Aquaculture: Basic Seamanship (SCQF level 4)

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria in accordance with current, relevant health and safety legislation.

Performance evidence, supported by assessor observation checklist and written and/or oral recorded evidence to show that the candidate, under direct supervision, can prepare a craft, carry out safe handling of a craft and perform rope skills.

The candidate must:

- ◆ refer to a local weather report and adjust route plans as necessary
- ◆ check the navigational equipment, communication equipment, safety equipment and the anchoring equipment, ensuring all are functional and appropriate to the type of boat
- ◆ undertake the pre-start check appropriate to the craft
- ◆ check personal protective clothing and buoyancy aids
- ◆ organise the load on a specific type of craft to ensure good balance and handling capability for a safe passage
- ◆ start and stop the craft on a minimum of one occasion
- ◆ control the speed with regard to given instructions
- ◆ steer according to the requirements of the planned route for a minimum of five minutes
- ◆ apply the kill cord on instruction
- ◆ berth on instruction on a minimum of one occasion
- ◆ describe one effect of the actions of another water user on the operation or handling of a specific type of craft
- ◆ produce a minimum of four knots and three hitches
- ◆ produce a minimum of one secure rope splice to form a loop (eye splice) in the end of a length of rope

Assessor observation checklists and other assessment records should be maintained and kept up to date to keep track of candidate progress and to provide evidence for internal and external verification purposes.

Written and/or oral evidence will be generated under close book conditions at appropriate points during the Unit.

Centres must be satisfied that the evidence submitted is the work of individual candidates.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Aquaculture: Basic Seamanship (SCQF level 4)

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 is an optional Unit within the National Progression Award in Aquaculture at SCQF level 4, but may also be taken as a free-standing Unit.

Candidates should be under direct instruction at all times and instructors should carefully plan the practical activities to comply with Health and Safety requirements. Centres should adhere to current, relevant health and safety legislation.

This Unit is aligned to the following Lantra, Sector Skills Council's National Occupational Standard (NOS) Unit, Prepare and Operate Small Craft (CU 13).

Outcome 1

Candidates should be under direct instruction at all times and instructors should carefully plan the practical activities to comply with Health and Safety requirements. It is expected that this Outcome will be delivered through practical activities although classroom discussion could take place on the operation of small pleasure craft such as a Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB). As such, the Performance Criteria in this Outcome could be met by the candidates undertaking a Powerboat Level 1 course.

Although under direct supervision, it is important that the candidates are made aware of the regulations pertaining to boats, which would include local byelaws and the application of rules 5 + 6 of International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea and conduct around commercial shipping in confined waters. Candidates should be aware of the need for insurance.

Suitable lifejackets should comply with current guidelines and be checked by a competent person prior to use.

Outcome 2

Candidates should be under direct instruction at all times and instructors should carefully plan the practical activities to comply with Health and Safety requirements and practical boatmanship should only be performed under appropriate weather and water conditions. The Performance Criteria in this Outcome could be met by the candidates undertaking a Powerboat level 1 course.

The location(s) for the practical activities and assessment should be reasonably sheltered and there should be a suitable shore base, pier or beach to provide safe access and egress to the small craft (eg RIB). The Outcome could be achieved equally on freshwater or seawater.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Aquaculture: Basic Seamanship (SCQF level 4)

Outcome 3

Candidates will be made aware of the main knots and hitches used in the aquaculture industry, being shown how to tie a range of knots, before being observed tying such examples. The range of knots and hitches could include a reef knot, bowline, sheet bend, sheepshank, clove hitch, lorry-man's hitch and the timber hitch.

Candidates would also be shown how to splice rope, before being observed undertaking such a task.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

All necessary equipment should be present on the vessel and should be in a well maintained and functional state.

A classroom delivery, as an introduction, would be useful to familiarise the candidates with the operation and features of the small craft under discussion. At this time, the influences of water and weather conditions and other users of the water could be discussed as well as the regulations on use of small craft. Group discussions and small team working activities will help to underpin the knowledge and practical skills.

Before practical sessions, a safety briefing should detail the risks associated with access and egress of small craft along with the safe operation of the vessel. Candidates should be familiarised with dummy safety equipment in the classroom before they go on-board the craft.

All candidates should be given a safety briefing on the vessel. Each candidate should then be given sufficient time to practise his/her skills within the group context.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

This Unit provides the opportunity to develop the Core Skill of *Working with Others* in Outcomes 2 and 3. Candidates will also have the opportunity to develop the Core Skill of *Communication* within Outcome 1 and Outcome 2. Candidates will also have the opportunity to develop the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* in Outcome 2.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

A suitable instrument of assessment for all Outcomes would be a series of practical exercises and for Outcome 2, a practical exercise could be supplemented by short answer questions.

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 Communication 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)*.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Aquaculture: Basic Seamanship (SCQF level 4)

DISABLED CANDIDATES AND/OR THOSE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements