

SQA Qualifications in Supply Chain



SVQs in Supply Chain Management

The SVQs in Supply Chain Management are overseen by the Sector Skills Council, Skills for Logistics. They are intended for people working in the Supply Chain, and are relevant to both the public and private sector.

There are SVQs in Supply Chain Management at SVQ Levels 2, 3, 4 and 5. Typical job roles for those working in the supply chain include:

Global Supply Chain Director	Logistics and Supply Analyst
Director of Supply Chain	Material Planner
Purchasing Manager	Material Scheduler
Supply Chain Development Manager	Senior Buyer
Supply Chain Manager	Buyer
Logistics and Warehouse Manager	Planner
Warehouse and Transport Team Manager	Expeditor
Strategic Supply Chain Manager	Distribution Supervisor
Senior Procurement Manager	Logistics Assistant/Supervisor
Customers Logistics Manager	Distribution Supervisor
Senior Procurement Manager	Warehouse Supervisor
Customers Logistics Manager	Procurement and Contract Officer
Assistant Purchasing Manager	Demand Planner
Contract Manager	Warehouse Assistant
Category Manager	Procurement Assistant
Material Manager	Supplies Assistant
Inventory Controller	Assistant Buyer
Commercial Manager	Contracts Assistant
Logistics Manager	Export Assistant
Imports Manager	



NPA in Supply Chain Operations

SQA offers a National Progression Award (NPA) in Supply Chain Operations. National Progression Awards are pre-vocational qualifications. They are an excellent basis for progression to employment and/or a full SVQ.

Candidates must complete both mandatory Units:

- How a supply chain works
- Customers and suppliers in a supply chain

And a further two Units from the following:

- Flow of orders in the supply chain
- Distribution and storage of goods
- Transportation of goods
- Safety, security and sustainability in the supply chain
- Personal development: Self and Work

Candidates

One aim of the NPA in Supply Chain Operations is to develop employability skills. These will be of use in the future, regardless of what career the candidate eventually chooses. The qualification also develops candidates' knowledge and understanding of the logistics sector, improving job opportunities for those who decide to seek a career in logistics. In particular, because it is based on the National Occupational Standards, it may provide a good basis for progression to apprenticeships.



Other uses of the NPA

The individual Units of the qualification will be of benefit to those already working in the industry. For example, security employees may wish to undertake the Unit *Safety, Security and Sustainability in the Supply Chain*.

Individual Units could also be used in driver training for the Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC). Although the legislation does not specify achievement of a qualification to comply with the Driver CPC, Skills for Logistics (the Sector Skills Council) reports that many companies, especially the larger ones who employ 80% of the logistics workforce, wish their drivers not merely to attend training, but also to achieve a worthwhile and relevant qualification. All the Units of the National Progression Award, with the exception of *Personal Development: Self and Work* would be relevant to driving work.

The NPA could be used with a number of groups. Some or all of the Units could be included in national programmes such as *Get Ready for Work* or *Training for Work*. Combined with development of employability skills and appropriate work experience, the NPA would provide underpinning knowledge to enhance work-readiness.

HNC/HND Supply Chain Management

SQA offers a Higher National Certificate (HNC) and a Higher National Diploma (HND) in Supply Chain Management. These are designed for candidates who want to progress their career into positions at an operational, team leader/supervisory or managerial level.

The qualifications focus on knowledge, understanding and skills that are specific to supply chain. Practical skills (how the topics are applied in practice) are developed by using the candidate's own employment situation, wherever possible.

In addition to the practical benefits, the qualifications should also prepare candidates for progression to further programmes of study, either in higher or professional education, or by means of occupational qualifications in the workplace.

Current SQA Qualifications in Supply Chain

SCQF* level	SOA National Units Courses and Group Awards	Higher Education	Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)	SCQF level
12				12
11			Supply Chain Management at SVQ Level 5	11
10				10
9			Supply Chain Management at SVQ Level 4	9
8		HND in Supply Chain Management		8
7		HNC in Supply Chain Management PDA in Supply Chain Operations**		7
6			Supply Chain Management at SVQ Level 3	6
5	NPA in Supply Chain Operations		Supply Chain Management at SVQ Level 2	5
4			Warehousing and Storage at SVQ Level 1	4
3				3
2				2
1				1

*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.

**NB: Current development of a Professional Development Award (PDA) in Supply Chain Operations anticipated by May 2009.



If you would like more information about any of the qualifications mentioned in this leaflet, such as course content, please contact our Customer Contact Centre on 0845 279 1000 or e-mail customer@sqa.org.uk

Alternatively, if you are a centre considering offering any qualifications mentioned in this leaflet, please contact our Business Development team on 0303 333 0330 or e-mail mycentre@sqa.org.uk



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DD4635 May 2009