



Scottish Qualifications Authority (trading as SQA)

Qualification Statement of Purpose

SQA Level 3 Certificate in Technical Theatre: Sound, Light and Stage 601/5136/5

Type of qualification QCF (Qualifications and Credit Framework)

Credit 30

Guided Learning Hours Minimum GLH147 – Maximum GLH 233

Overview of the Qualification

The Level 3 Certificate in Technical Theatre: Sound, Light and Stage is a competence based qualification, the primary purpose of which is to confirm that you have developed the knowledge and skills required to carry out the job role of an Lighting Technician or Lead Lighting Technician, Senior Sound Technician, Senior Stage Technician. Your job role will involve working ‘behind-the-scene’ areas of theatre production. There are three pathways within the qualification, allowing you to specialise in Sound, Light or Stage.

This qualification is suitable for learners who are employed or who are volunteers within Technical Theatre, working with the Director, Sound Designer and other technicians.

This competence based qualification is ideal for those of you who working in a theatre where their tasks would include the following:

Carrying out risk assessments including Health and Safety
Attending planning meetings,
Dealing with touring artists, bands and orchestras
Planning and installations of Electrical Equipment
Planning and installations of Sound Equipment
Show and Sound/Lighting/Stage Timings

Throughout the qualification, you will be expected to apply your knowledge and skills in a considerable range of work activities to meet your job role within Sound, Light and Stage.

As this is a competence based qualification, it will mainly be delivered on-the-job and can be assessed in a variety of ways such as:

- Portfolio of evidence containing:
 - Minutes of Meetings
 - Correspondence
 - Outputs such as spreadsheets using appropriate software packages
 - Forms and applications
 - Theatre management information
 - Theatre inventory
 - Risk Assessments
 - Health and Safety Information
- Observation from an assessor who will observe you

carrying out your work and observe that you can do the work-based tasks effectively while complying with the performance criteria within each unit.

- Witness testimonies and supporting evidence from your supervisor in the workplace or question and answers sessions.

Your assessor will work with you to confirm that you have met the requirements set out in this qualification and are therefore competent in your role either in Level 3 Technical Theatre: Sound, Light or Stage.

The minimum total number of credits you will need to achieve to be awarded this qualification is 30.

There are three mandatory units worth 10 credits. The mandatory units which are:

Keeping up to date with technical and production developments in the live arts: This Unit enables you to research and gather a range of information about technical and production developments in the live arts and apply them to inform your work in Sound, Light or Stage.

Develop effective working relationships with colleagues in a theatre setting: This Unit will develop effective working relationships with colleagues in a theatre setting. It deals with both supporting colleagues, when to seek support from others and with methods for reducing conflicts with others.

Ensure responsibilities for actions to reduce risks to health and safety: This Unit provides you with the knowledge, understanding and skills to understand their health and safety responsibilities in the workplace.

You will then need to select the most appropriate pathway for your job role.

Technical Theatre: Sound – You must achieve a minimum of 17 credits from this pathway

This pathway will help you gain an understanding of working with Sound within a theatre environment. You will learn gain knowledge and skills across a wide range of the sound requirements for a Sound Technician/Lead Sound Technician or a sound Designer within the Technical Theatre: Sound. The optional units available include: Conduct a health and safety risk assessment for the workplace, Supervising getting in and getting out of technical theatre, Develop and refine ideas for sound requirements in live performance, Plan sound requirements for a live performance, Source Sound equipment, Co-ordinate the sound requirements for a rehearsal, Record sound for a live performance.

Technical Theatre: Light – You must achieve a minimum of 17 credits from this pathway

This pathway will help you gain an understanding of working with Lighting within a theatre environment. You will learn gain knowledge and skills across a wide range of the lighting requirements for a Lighting Technician or Lead Lighting Technician within the Technical Theatre: Light. Some of the optional units available include:

Rehearsing and plotting the lighting, Sourcing lighting and special effects equipment and consumables, Oversee the setting up, focusing of lighting and checking of control systems and accessories, Operating lighting for a live performance in the theatre, Supervising the reporting of common faults in stage and lighting equipment in theatre and live performance, Supervising the operation of lighting control systems, Evaluating lighting plans for a live performance.

Technical Theatre: Stage – You must achieve a minimum of 17 credits from this pathway

This pathway will help you gain an understanding of working with Stage within a theatre environment. You will learn gain knowledge and skills across a wide range of the stage requirements for a Senior Stage Technician job role within the Technical Theatre: Stage. Some of the optional units available include:

Manage live performance tours, Interpret design for sets and props, Research and develop ideas for a live production, Source materials and equipment for sets, Manufacture Sets, Set up flying equipment and components for use during a live performance.

You will then need to choose three credits from the Optional Section. Within this section there are also a number of optional units available which are common to all three pathways, such as: Implement the use of CCTV equipment to support sound and lighting systems, Contribute to the technical production of a live performance, Selecting and using safe systems for working a height, Prepare flying equipment and components for use during a live performance.

Who is the qualification for?

The qualification is ideal for those of you who:

- have completed a level 2 Certificate in Technical Theatre Support: Sound, Light and Stage and now want to progress your career further within the industry
- work as a Sound Technician/Lead Sound Technician, Lighting Technician/Lead Lighting Technician, and Senior Stage Technician and wish a qualification to progress your career further within the industry.
- are already volunteer in technician roles within the Technical Theatre and who wish to gain recognition for the skills and knowledge previously achieved.

Age range

There are no formal age restrictions for this qualification.

Entry requirements

It is likely that you will be working within Technical Theatre as a Technician or Lead Technician and wish to gain a Level 3 Certificate in Technical Theatre: Sound, Light and Stage to support your Technician/ Lead Technician role within Technical Theatre. Alternatively, you may already have a level of knowledge and skills within Technical Theatre Support at Level 2 but need further develop the skills and knowledge required by the industry to undertake a Technician/ Lead Technician in Technical Theatre.

**Apprenticeships/
Other qualifications**

Although this qualification can form part of a Apprenticeship framework in Technical Theatre: Sound, Light and Stage many learners will access this Technical Theatre: Sound, Light and Stage qualification outside of an apprenticeship, typically:

- those of you who are older and/or existing members of staff, who are using this qualification to gain recognition and certification for existing practice
- as the basis for continuing professional development, either by gaining a more senior position or by progressing onto further qualifications in the Creative and Cultural Sector or Management Qualifications.

**What can the qualification
lead to?**

This qualification provides you with the technical and specialist knowledge and skills to work as a Technician/Lead Technician within Technical Theatre: Sound, Light and Stage.

Learners may progress to

The qualification is based on the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Technical Theatre which define what employees must be able to do, how well, and in what circumstances, to show they are competent in their workplace and able to carry out activities in relation to their specific job role. The NOS are developed by the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the Creative and Cultural industries to ensure they are 'fit for purpose' to meet the needs of employers.

The qualification has been designed by Creative and Cultural Skills Sector Skills Council (SSC) who work with employer representatives from the Technical Theatre sector as well as educationalists, professional bodies and trade unions to ensure that successful learners meet the industry's specific needs and are "job ready".

This qualification is also recognised and supported by professional bodies within the Technical Theatre sector.

**Any other relevant
information
SQA website**

www.sqa.org.uk

Telephone

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E-mail enquiries

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