

Scottish Qualifications Authority (trading as SQA)

Qualification Statement of Purpose

601/1937/8

Level 2 NVQ Diploma Construction Operations and Civil Engineering Services: Construction Operations (Construction)

Type of Qualification	QCF (Qualification and Credit Framework)
Credit	41 credits
Guided Learning Hours	min 137 to max 193 guided learning hours

Overview of this qualification:

This level 2 qualification is a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) which is a work-based qualification that assesses the skills and knowledge you need to perform your job role effectively. This qualification is based on the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Construction Operations and Civil Engineering Services.

For each industry sector there is a standards-setting body made up of experienced practitioners who represent employers, professional bodies, trade unions, education and voluntary organisations.

Each standards setting-body is responsible for developing the NOS that define what employees (or potential employees) must be able to do, how well, and in what circumstances, to show that they are competent in their workplace in order to carry out a range of activities.

This qualification is available as part of an apprenticeship framework but can also be delivered outwith the apprenticeship. You would take the NVQ as a standalone qualification in order to progress within the industry where you wish to be trained and assessed as a construction operative. As a standalone qualification you can gain this qualification quicker than following the apprenticeship route thus allowing you to gain or retain employment within the industry. In addition the apprenticeship requires the completion of a 'knowledge based' qualification and English and Maths qualifications (if not already achieved) in addition to this NVQ.

There are 8 pathways available as part of this qualification:

- Excavation and Reinstatement
- Drainage Construction
- General Building Operations
- General Construction
- Laying Kerbs and Channels
- Modular Pavement Construction
- Non-structural Concreting
- Structural Concreting

Purpose of this qualification:

The primary purpose of this qualification is to confirm your occupational competence in Construction Operations. As a work-related, competency-based qualification it will provide on completion, confirmation to employers and industry managers and card schemes that you have the skills and knowledge needed to conduct the duties of a Construction Operative to a nationally recognised standard.

These qualifications are assessed by completing a portfolio of evidence which details what you've done at work through a variety of evidence such as observation from an assessor who watches you work and checks that you can do the work-related tasks, professional discussion, witness testimony and supporting documentary evidence. Because your assessor works alongside you they are able to confirm that you have met the requirements of this qualification and that you are therefore competent in your role.

Competence is displayed through your assessor observing you demonstrate that you carry out your normal work activities in a safe manner complying with all appropriate health and safety regulations and site procedures. The assessment process will also ensure that you can learn how to conform to productive working practices in the workplace and how to move, handle and store resources in the workplace, as well as developing the knowledge and skills to work competently in a variety of roles in general construction operations on a construction site. You will show that you can interpret these instructions correctly and will then be assessed in carrying out these tasks safely.

What does this qualification cover?

As this is a 'competence based qualification' this means you will be acquiring the knowledge and skills required through on-the-job experience.

To achieve this qualification you need **41** credits. You must complete the **mandatory units**. There are 2 core mandatory units which are applicable to each pathway

- Conforming to General Health, Safety and Welfare in the Workplace
- Conforming to Productive Working Practices in the Workplace

The following is a list of the additional mandatory units for each pathway

Excavation and Reinstatement

- Locating and Protecting Utilities Apparatus and Sub-structures in the Workplace
- Excavating Holes and Trenches — Manual Digging in the Workplace

General Building Operations

- Laying Modular Pavement in the Workplace
- Laying Kerbs and Channels in the Workplace
- Setting out Secondary Dimensional Work Control in the Workplace

General Construction

- Moving, Handling and Storing Resources in the Workplace

Laying Kerbs and Channels

- Laying Kerbs and Channels in the Workplace
- Setting out Secondary Dimensional Work Control in the Workplace

Modular Pavement Construction

- Laying Modular Pavement in the Workplace
- Setting out Secondary Dimensional Work Control in the Workplace

Non-structural Concreting

- Placing and Finishing Non-Specialist Concrete in the Workplace
- Pouring Concrete to Form Structures in the Workplace

Structural Concreting

- Erecting and Striking Proprietary Formwork in the Workplace
- Pouring Concrete to Form Structures in the Workplace

Drainage Construction

- Installing Drainage in the Workplace
- Setting out Secondary Dimensional Work Control in the Workplace

In addition to the mandatory units, you will select units from a wide range of optional units to successfully achieve the full qualification. This allows you and your employer flexibility to select the most appropriate units for your job role.

- Establishing Work Area Protection and Safety in the Workplace
- Segregating the Area for Highways Works in the Workplace
- Preparing and Mixing Concrete and Mortars in the Workplace
- Reinstating Ground Condition in the Workplace
- Placing and Compacting Concrete in the Workplace
- Erecting and Dismantling Access/Working Platforms in the Workplace
- Installing Street Ironwork in the Workplace
- Providing Temporary Excavation Support in the Workplace
- Reinstating Excavation and Highway Surfaces in the Workplace
- Preparing and Operating Forward Tipping Dumpers to Receive, Transport and Discharge Materials in the Workplace
- Preparing and Operating Ride-on Rollers to Compact Materials in the Workplace
- Preparing to and Directing and Guiding Plant and Plant Operations in the Workplace
- Preparing for and Arranging and Securing Plant for Haulage in the Workplace
- Preparing and Operating Specialised Powered Tools and Equipment in the Workplace
- Slinging and Signalling the Movement of Loads (Secondary Role) in the Workplace
- Moving, Handling and Storing Resources in the Workplace
- Reinstating Excavation and Highway Surfaces in the Workplace
- Segregating the Area for Highways Works in the Workplace
- Installing Drainage in the Workplace
- Placing and Finishing Non-Specialist Concrete in the Workplace

To gain this qualification your duties may include:

- Preparing the ground for construction work
- Helping to set out areas to be dug for foundations and drains
- Preparing materials such as cement and plaster
- Digging shallow trenches manually, and trimming and squaring up trenches dug by machine
- Erecting and dismantling timbering used to support trenches
- Laying drains and backfill trenches
- Erecting and taking down formwork
- Fixing steel
- Pouring concrete for foundations, walls, beams and floors

Who is this qualification for?

This qualification can be taken by full-time / part-time employees or by college students with a work placement or part-time job that enables you to develop the appropriate skills in the workplace. Although there are no set entry requirements to become a construction operative, you may have an advantage if you have some on-site experience. Some employers may ask for GCSEs in subjects like Maths and English, or equivalent qualifications.

This qualification is mainly taken by individuals employed in, or seeking employment in a construction or building environment who need recognition of their competence in construction operations.

Age Range:

This qualification is approved for 16 – 18 year olds, and 19 + learners.

This qualification will enable you to progress into employment in the construction and civil engineering industry. If you are aspiring to a supervisory role, this qualification can also lead to supervisory qualifications including

GD3Y 57 Occupational Work Supervision Construction Operations (600/2836/1)

What this qualification leads to

Construction operatives have a comprehensive knowledge of the building methods and materials involved in working on construction sites. You'll learn how to place concrete to the correct level, lay drainage and pavements, place street iron works and excavate holes and trenches. You will master the construction skills you need to become a construction operative in the tunnelling and underground construction industry. Job roles this could lead to include: General Labourer, Maintenance Operative, Grounds Maintenance Operative, Building Labourer, Groundwork Operative, Multi-trade Operative.

Recognition

This qualification is supported by [Concrete Repair Association](#)

Formed in 1989, the CRA is committed to promoting and developing the practice of concrete repair and allied disciplines, as well as advancing education, technical training and health & safety matters in this specialist construction sector.

Member companies include specialist contractors, product manufacturers and product distributors established in the field of concrete repair, as well as associated organisations, such as testing laboratories.

Each full specialist contractor and product manufacturer member must be able to demonstrate a proven track record and overall proven ability. They are also obliged to be Q.A. Accredited to ISO 9000:2000 and BS EN 14001 (Environmental Standard) to conform to the Association's Codes of Practice and Training requirements. By setting such self-regulating standards and procedures, engineers, authorities, clients and other specifiers are able to select from established professional organisations for concrete repair projects.

Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS)

Many building contractors will want you to have a CSCS card before you can work on their sites. The card is proof of your skills and ability to carry out the job safely. To get your card, you must pass the

- CITB Health, Safety and Environment test
- prove your occupational competence (by holding appropriate qualifications)

For further information on this qualification please contact SQA via one of the following routes:

SQA Website www.sqa.org.uk

Telephone 0345 279 1000

Email Enquiries customer@sqa.org.uk