

Food and Drink qualification update 2022

As we were unable to hold a provider network this year again, we've brought together the following information for you. We hope that you find this useful and would welcome your feedback, our contact details are:

Suzanne Train, Qualifications Officer - suzanne.train@sqa.org.uk and Graeme Findlay, Qualifications Manager – graeme.findlay@sqa.org.uk

Session 2022-2023

Current advice and guidance about regulated qualifications is available and can be found at this link - [SQA Accreditation - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) support](#)

Verification

Feedback from Iain Percival, Senior External Verifier, was that all external verification was carried out virtually with centre staff, with access to speak to candidates by telephone if required.

No observations of any assessment practices took place due to the virtual nature of the process, and evidence provided by centres confirmed they were working within the requirements of the SSC assessment strategy for the awards.

The use of technology to record candidates' evidence by means of photographs, videos or voice recording, which is then downloaded and stored in the candidates e portfolios, has been used during the current restrictions, greatly benefitting virtual verification.

Approval

Centres applying for approval are reminded that they can request a pre-approval development visit prior to submitting their approval application.

SVQs in Food and Drink Operations

A reminder of the SVQs that are currently available are listed below, more detailed information on each framework can be found at the following link:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14415.html>

Course	Code	Focus
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Brewing Skills) level 5	GP6P 22	Aimed at staff in the sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety standards in manufacture, malt handling, milling, brewing, mashing and conversion, wort boiling, cooling, fermentation, maturation and conditioning.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Craft Bakery Skills) level 5	GP23 22	Aimed at staff in the sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety standards in manufacture, working safely, and producing and finishing bakery products using machinery.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Dairy Skills) level 5	GP22 22	Aimed at staff in the sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety standards in manufacture, working safely, producing and finishing dairy products, weighing, measuring, mixing dairy products, planning, and food hygiene.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Distribution Skills) level 5	GP21 22	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety standards in manufacture, working safely, storing and organising goods and materials, stock control, transporting goods, packing orders, and the security of goods and materials
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Fish and Shellfish Processing Skills) level 5	GR5T 22	Aimed at staff in the onshore fish and shellfish sector, this qualification covers areas such as filleting, processing, grading, packing, retail display of fish and shellfish, counter/take-away food service and sales
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations: Food Manufacturing Excellence level 5	GP20 22	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as developing productive working relationships, maintaining product quality in food, workplace food safety standards in manufacturing, working safely, environmental safety, sustainability, and developing product specifications.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Meat and Poultry Skills) level 5	GR63 22	Aimed at staff in the sector, this qualification covers areas from handling of livestock to primary meat processing, secondary processing/butchery and butchery sales.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Production and Processing Skills) level 5	GP1V 22	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety standards in manufacture, working safely, plant and equipment operation, batching, depositing, forming, conditioning, bottling, pelletising, and slicing.

SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Food Sales and Service Skills) level 5	GP1W 22	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety standards in manufacture, working safely in food manufacture, selling food and drinks products, table/tray service, assembling and processing products, storing and organising.
SVQ in Food Technology at SCQF level 6	GP0D 23	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as, food business, food manufacture, working relationships with colleagues, health, safety and environmental management, food safety hazards and team work.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations at SCQF level 6	GP1X 23	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety at critical points, health, safety and environmental systems, maintaining product quality, energy efficiency, waste minimisation, water usage, process control of production, and leadership.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Fish and Shellfish Industry Skills) level 6	GR5R 23	Aimed at staff in the onshore fish and shellfish sector, this qualification covers areas such as monitoring and managing fish and shellfish processing operations, leadership, developing skills in a range of fish and shellfish processes including procedures and recording production operations, product knowledge, frying fish and chips, smoking, quality assessment and seafood sales.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations: Food Manufacturing Excellence level 6	GP1Y 23	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as developing productive working relationships, maintaining product quality in food, workplace food safety standards in manufacturing, working safely, environmental safety, sustainability, and developing product specifications.
SVQ in Food and Drink Operations (Supply Chain Skills) level 6	GP1T 23	Aimed at staff across the food and drink sector, this qualification covers areas such as: monitoring food safety at critical control points; health, safety and environmental systems; maintaining product quality; organising storage of goods; picking and packing orders; wrapping and labelling; and managing plant and equipment.
SVQ Spirits Operations SCQF level 6	GR4A 23	Aimed at staff in the sector, this qualification covers areas such as food safety; health, safety and environmental systems; product quality; operation control systems; site security; malting; milling; mashing; fermentation; distilling; flavouring and cask filling.

The National Skills Academy for Food and Drink

National Occupational Standards (NOS) Reviews

Skills Development Scotland, who manage funding for Standards and Frameworks Projects, have asked that the National Skills Academy for Food and Drink (NSAFD) review 5 important suites of National Occupational Standards (NOS) for the food and drink sector during 2022-23.

This will involve working with employees, employers, associations, trade unions, Awarding Bodies, training providers and colleges

The reviews will run up until 31st March 2023, with consultation through virtual or face to face working groups, email feedback and feedback through a dedicated online consultation site.

A number of individual standards from the NOS suites underpin SVQs and Modern Apprenticeships for the sector, so it is important that Scottish stakeholders contribute to the reviews.

The list of NOS suites which will be reviewed are:

- Craft Bakery
- Automated Bakery
- Dairy
- Production Management
- Production and Control Operations in Food Manufacturing

If you would like to contribute to these NOS reviews, please contact Louse Cairns, CEO at NSAFD – l.cairns@nsafd.co.uk

Skills Development Scotland

Our latest Sector Skills Assessment that provides an insight into the food and drink manufacturing sector, and the future demand for jobs can be viewed at <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/media/48810/food-drink-manufacturing-ssa-1.pdf>

If you would like further information, please contact - Gerry.McBride@sds.co.uk

Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) in Food and Drink Technologies

[The Foundation Apprenticeship in Food and Drink Technologies](#) for senior phase (S5/6) pupils, is delivered in partnership between schools, colleges, and industry. It is the same level as an SQA Higher (SCQF level 6) and provides young people with a nationally recognised qualification, work experience in the industry and the ability to learn independently.

This apprenticeship supports progression routes and pathways into the food and drink sector and enables students to understand what the industry is really like, the diversity of career routes available and the skills required by employers.

The subjects covered by the qualification ensure students gain a broad understanding of the industry and the blend of hands-on, practical and virtual work offer the potential to progress into employment, a Modern Apprenticeship or go to college or university.

- Science
- New product development
- Technology and manufacturing
- Nutrition
- Design and marketing

Employers supporting the qualification by providing work experience, gain access to a pool of potential new recruits to fill the labour and skills shortages and ultimately help the industry recovery post COVID.

A very successful webinar was held recently, with presentations from Isla Porteous, who delivers the course, and Colin Buchanan, who chairs the community of practice group that supports the qualification.

A recording of the webinar can be found at the following link - [SQA - Understanding Standards: Apprenticeships](#)

For more information on the community of practice group, please contact Colin at Colin Buchanan, [Partnership and Delivery Manager - North Region, Foundation and Graduate Apprenticeships](#) - Colin.buchanan@sds.co.uk

[Food and Drink Technologies Foundation Apprenticeship Promotional videos](#)

Under the stewardship of the Scotland Food and Drink Partnership, [a suite of four films](#) have been developed to encourage more young people to choose this qualification as one of their subject choices in senior phase.

Four films are available, one for use in the classroom and at career information sessions and 3 shorter versions, formatted for use on social media to promote the qualification more widely.

These films form part of a wider [toolkit of resources](#) that help to promote awareness of the food and drink industry and the jobs and careers it provides and pathways and progression routes available. Skills Development Scotland supported Food and Drink Federation Scotland to lead on this work on behalf of the SF&D Skills Advisory Group.

Quick links

- Watch the Foundation Apprenticeship in Food and Drink Technologies videos on [FDF Scotland's website](#)
- Watch the Foundation Apprenticeship in Food and Drink Technologies videos on [YouTube](#)
- [Key messages](#) to use when speaking to young people about food and drink careers

Please share these videos across your channels:

Suggested tweet

If you are you in S5/6 and interested in #foodanddrink #STEM the #FoundationApprenticeship in Food and Drink Technologies could be for you. Check out what young people think about the course and why employers love it! <https://bit.ly/3FHYmwu>

Suggested post for other social media

Are you in S5/6 and interested in a career in #foodanddrink #STEM Do you want to be more employable after school? The #FoundationApprenticeship in Food and Drink Technologies could be for you. Check out what young people studying the apprenticeship really think about the course and why employers love it! <https://bit.ly/3FHYmwu>

Suggested newsletter/website copy

Food and drink is one of Scotland's best performing sectors and is doing world class work in innovation, research and development, sustainability and advanced manufacturing techniques. It's a sector to be proud of and offers to great careers and progression opportunities.

Like many other sectors food and drink needs a pipeline of new recruits to help it continue to grow and thrive.

Are you in S5/6 and interested in STEM subjects and food and drink? Do you want to gain work experience while you study and become more employable? [The Foundation Apprenticeship in Food and Drink Technologies](#) can help you progress into a diverse range of careers in food and drink like:

- Science
- New product development
- Technology and manufacturing
- Nutrition
- Design and marketing

Check out these films to find out what young people studying the apprenticeship really think about the course and why employers love it!

<https://bit.ly/3FHYmwu>

Key messages about food and drink careers

- There are many exciting reasons to work in food and drink. For a start, there's a huge choice of career paths and opportunities for progression.

- Whether you're a scientist or ideas person, great at fixing things or better at selling or planning, food and drink could be the career for you.
- Apprenticeships are offered across a broad range of roles within the sector, engineering, digital marketing, food production.
- Colleges and universities offer further education that can secure roles within the food and drink industry.
- Food and drink is one of Scotland's best-performing sectors - we export our whisky, seafood, meat, baking and other produce to over 105 countries.
- The food and drink industry is always innovating and looking for new ideas on how to manage the environment, health and wellbeing, and convenience.
- The sector maintained food supply during a global pandemic with 'Key Worker' status assigned to the workforce.

Food and drink manufacturing industry stats

- We employ 47,000 people, 26% of the Scottish manufacturing workforce.
- Scottish food and drink manufacturing will need 6,700 new recruits between 2021-2031.
- We have 1,185 food and drink manufacturing businesses.
- We are Scotland's largest manufacturing sector, accounting for 30% of total manufacturing turnover.
- Our industry has a turnover of £10.4 billion, accounting for 30% of total Scottish manufacturing.
- Our gross value added to the economy is £3.6 billion, 28% of Scottish manufacturing value added.
- In 2021 food and drink exports increased by 12% to £5.9 billion.
- 95% of our businesses are SMEs.