



SELECT and SQA — Meeting National Standards for Scotland's Electricians

Using the Scottish Qualifications Authority's Customised Awards service, organisations can design their own qualifications. SQA Customised Awards are unique qualifications developed in partnership with, and owned by, the partner organisation to meet their business needs, and demonstrate quality and industry compliance.

SELECT has been an SQA approved centre since 1999, delivering a variety of qualifications for Scotland's electricians, with a commitment to providing high quality training for the industry.



Excellence in Skills

SELECT

SELECT is the trade association for the electrical contracting industry in Scotland. Founded in 1900 as The Electrical Contractors' Association of Scotland, SELECT became the first trade association in the world to serve the electrical industry.

As the first trade association in the world to serve the electrical industry, SELECT provides support to almost 1250 member companies, and works closely with the Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust (SECTT) who run the only industry approved training scheme for electrical apprenticeships in Scotland. Apprentice electricians work to achieve their SVQ (Scottish Vocational Qualifications) in Electrical Installation at SCQF level 7 (jointly awarded by SQA and the Scottish Joint Industry Body (SJIB)).

Completing the SVQ and the apprenticeship is just the start! To stay up-to-date with changes in technology and regulations, electricians need to update their skills and training throughout their careers. To meet this need, SELECT has designed a variety of SQA Customised Awards.

SELECT offers four Customised Awards to provide important training on **BS 7671** – the UK national standard for electrical installation and the safety of electrical wiring in domestic, industrial, and other buildings:

- **Design and Verification of Electrical Installations.**

This qualification has been developed for practising electricians who want an in-depth knowledge of the wiring regulations. The course also covers the design and initial verification of Electrical Installations. It is delivered over three training days and includes home study and project work. The qualification is also credit rated on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) at SCQF level 7.

- **Requirements for Electrical Installations to BS 7671**

Developed for practising electricians and others responsible for ensuring that electrical installations are installed and commissioned in accordance with current requirements.

- **Initial Verification of Electrical Installations to BS 7671**

Developed for practising electricians who wish to keep their skills and knowledge up-to-date in relation to inspection, testing and certification of new electrical installations as well as additions and alterations to existing installations.

- **Inspection & Testing of Electrical Installations to BS 7671 including Periodic Inspection**

Developed for electrical practitioners involved in the inspection and testing of both new and existing electrical installations. The qualification is also credit rated at SCQF level 7.

Training for these courses is delivered by tutors from SELECT at venues across Scotland. An online course on BS 7671 is a compulsory element in two of the awards, but is available to candidates on any of BS 7671 courses. The online format provides flexibility for learners.

Fiona Harper, Head of Employment Affairs & Skills at SELECT, believes SQA Customised Awards are of significant value:

“Working with SQA in the design of the Customised Awards has been invaluable. During development, we took the opportunity to redesign our training material and delivery methods to ensure that each of the courses meets the needs of the industry.

We also developed additional assessment materials to ensure that our learners not only enjoy the experience of classroom training but, through a blend of online assessment, home study and project work, are able to prove that they have a clear understanding of the course content.

At the delivery stage we strive to ensure high quality and consistency. Annual visits by an SQA External Verifier highlight best practice and help us to guarantee we stay on the right track to achieve training excellence. These visits also drive consistency for learners and have encouraged us to put in place robust administrative processes and quality assurance systems.”

This partnership between SQA and SELECT has proven extremely positive for the electrical industry in Scotland, Fiona continues:

“We very much value the relationship with SQA and the Customised Awards process. These qualifications are a real mark of quality and they have a currency that both learners and employers relate to.

From a learner perspective, it provides them with an SQA and SELECT joint certificate, enabling them to demonstrate the quality of the training to employers.

The numbers of candidates going through the Customised Awards is continuously growing and are a testament to how much the industry values them.

Theresa McGowan, Regional Manager at SQA, is delighted with the difference SQA and SELECT are making to the electrical industry in Scotland:

“As Scotland’s National Awarding Body, we support qualifications and skills in key sectors nationwide. I’ve worked with SELECT for a number of years and I am delighted to see that their commitment to providing high quality skills and training for electricians is going from strength to strength.

SQA Customised Awards give our customers the flexibility to design their own qualifications, to a high quality, specific to their needs. Our dedicated Business Development and Customised Awards teams can support a variety of private, public and third sector organisations to meet their training needs.”

To find out more about SQA Customised Awards visit: www.sqa.org.uk/customisedawards

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