

Questions and Answers

Transitioning to the new digital apprenticeship standard

9 June 2017

Regarding maths and English, do we know if it must be GCSE/Functional Skills or does SASE still apply to standards?

All apprentices need to develop their maths and English as part of the new apprenticeship standards. The standard will state the level required. If the apprentice has already achieved this prior to the apprenticeship, they will be supported to work towards the next level. If they have not already achieved the level required, maths and English are taken as part of the apprenticeship programme. Typically:

- Level 2 apprenticeships require maths and English at Level 1. Apprentices must then be supported to work towards Level 2. Apprentices must attempt the qualifications, although they do not have to pass.
- Level 3 apprenticeships require maths and English at Level 2. Apprentices must then be supported to work towards Level 3.

However, it will be important to check the standard, as there may be some variation.

The ESFA has confirmed that maths and English will be funded separately to the rest of the apprenticeship components.

Regarding the co-investment funding works, if we start spending on training now, when we have very little in our funding pot, does the government fund 90% of the training so long as we can pay 10% from the pot? What are the restrictions around this?

Providers are aware that such situations are likely, and will come to an agreement with employers where payment matches the availability of funds in their apprenticeship account. The training does not have to be paid all in one go.

Is the £1,200 price a one off fee?

This consists of a £200 initial registration fee at the start of the programme, with the £1,000 paid when you place your reservation request for EPA.

Are the resit fees on an individual apprentice basis?

Yes - £1,000 per apprentice.

Who will be claiming the qualifications certificates? Will this be providers or employers? Will this be done before the end-point assessment (EPA) or after?

Qualifications are claimed by the provider as it is through them that the learner is registered with City & Guilds.

When will the Digital Marketer standards will be ready?

The standards are already published on the [Government website](#).

City & Guilds Digital Marketer apprenticeship (on-programme) should open for registration in July.

Are there plans for SmartScreen resources?

There are no plans to develop SmartScreen resources for now.

How do I apply to become an end-point assessor?

Via the City & Guilds [website](#).

Where can I see the City & Guilds knowledge module content, so we can compare to BCS which is available online?

The knowledge module content is available through the individual qualification handbooks. These are all part of the 9648 Digital apprenticeship but have a 9628 qualification number – they are available on the 9648 apprenticeship web-page, under the documents tab and [‘Centre documents’](#).

Can you clarify how City & Guilds work with the vendor qualifications where they have to be achieved as part of the standard please?

Vendor and professional qualifications allow the apprentice exemptions from the City & Guilds knowledge modules. There are restrictions in terms of the number of vendor qualifications that carry exemptions. Check with the individual Digital apprenticeship standard for more details.

Will there be a mapping document released for recording the behaviours?

No. The behaviours will be assessed as part of the EPA as detailed in the EPA packs available on the City & Guilds 9648 webpage. A mapping document might suggest a restrictive approach to assessing behaviours.

If we are new to delivering IT apprenticeships, do we complete a QAP on Walled Garden and an EPA form?

Centres new to delivering IT/Digital apprenticeships must complete a QAP (centres new to City & Guilds must also complete the centre approval process). The EPA is carried out by City & Guilds as an independent EPA organisation. Centres support the apprentice through the on-programme element and agrees with the employer when the apprentice is ready to take the EPA – in other words they pass the ‘gateway’ to the EPA. The centre does not contribute to the EPA itself.

Employers set entry requirements - do we have any input here. Or is it negotiation with employers?

Employers recruit apprentices as they are their employees, so the decision on entry requirements rests with them, although they may seek guidance from other organisations.

Can the vendor qualification be paid through the funding including certification?

Only the number of vendor qualifications stipulated in the standards in terms of registration and exam fees. These fees for additional vendor qualifications must be paid for outside of the apprenticeship funding.

Will we be able to use Learning Assistant to record progress and capture evidence etc. to help steer us and the student in the Digital Marketer apprenticeship?

Yes. The standards will be available on Learning Assistant.

When will AO publish Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) guidance?

There is no RPL available for the new Digital Apprenticeship standards – they assessed, like all new apprenticeship standards, after the learning has taken place. The exemptions only apply to the on-programme knowledge qualifications – these are exemptions not equivalents.