



ECITB Apprentice Phase Testing (APT) Programme 2018

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Introduction to Apprenticeship Phase Testing Programme

The ECITB are supporting the ECI in implementing the new Apprenticeship standards developed as a result of the Apprenticeship reforms.

Develop a process (Phase tests) that will ensure ECI Apprentices are acquiring the correct skills and knowledge at a set point throughout the Apprenticeship programme.

The phase tests will be an ongoing quality assurance program available to in-scope ECITB employers. Employers must register their intention to use the Phase Tests at the start of the Apprenticeship.

Phase Testing - Key Dynamics

- ❑ To be administered at ECITB approved skill centres.
- ❑ Tests will take place at approximately the 3, 12, 24, 36 month point.
- ❑ All Apprentices regardless of discipline will undertake generic 3 month foundation test.
- ❑ From 12 month onwards phase test will be delivered according to Apprentice's chosen discipline.
- ❑ Knowledge & Skills criteria will be assessed using technical testing systems.
- ❑ All successful phase tests individually certificated by the ECITB.

The structure of Apprentice **Phase Test**

Element 1

On line knowledge test
Using multiple choice
Questions through MSP

Element 2

Practical Test
Guidance document will
be available on MSP

Knowledge Test

- Bank of multi choice questions for the 3 month tests for all disciplines.
- Bank of multi choice questions for the 12 & 24 month tests based on the ECITB RQF VQ units of assessment to include all disciplines.
- Bank of multi choice questions for the 36 month pre gate way tests for Electrical, Mechanical and Instrument and Control.
- For Apprentice standards that mandate ECITB VQs, the Apprentices will have to complete a VQ holistic test for that qualification unit prior to entering the final gateway assessment. Therefore 36 month phase test is not required for (Pipefitting & Rigging/Erecting).

Practical Test

- 3 month tests will take a form of work based project which will be delivered over a period of time incorporating several sessions.
- 12 month test will be trade based relatively routine and not complex. Suitable for 1st year Apprentice.
- 24 month test will be again trade specific but progressively more challenging in line with additional learning that has taken place during previous 12 months.
- 36 month test would be a part of gateway review. For English based Apprentices this test will be designed to demonstrate the apprentice's readiness to undertake the EPA.

Regardless of the Apprentice's disciplines listed in previous slides, the 3 month phase test shall measure the Apprentices skills and knowledge against the following criteria.

- Engineering Drawings & Practice

- Engineering materials

- Use of basic hand tools, portable power tools to cut and shape materials

- Abrasive wheels

- Basic Measurements

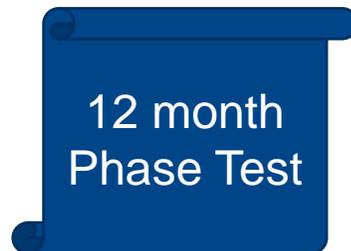
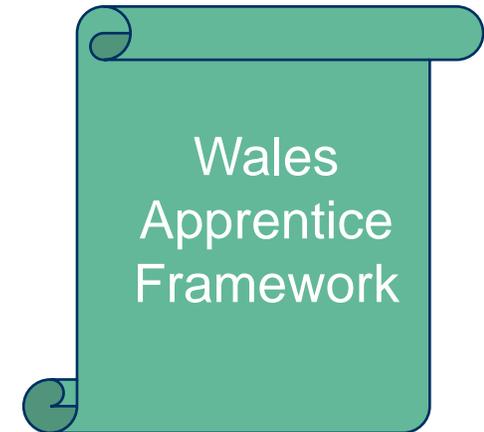
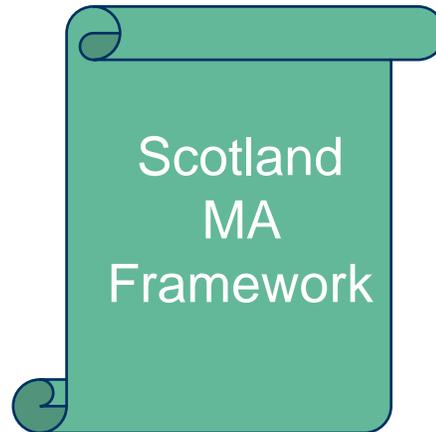
Occupations covered by initial phase tests

- Pipefitting
- Mechanical maintenance
- Electrical maintenance
- Instrumentation & controls
- Rigging & erecting

Phase Test Schedule

Discipline Milestones	Pipefitting	Electrical Maintenance	Mechanical Maintenance	Instruments & control	Rigging /Erecting
3 Months	Generic Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Generic Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Generic Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Generic Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Generic Practical & Knowledge Assessment
12 Months	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment
24 Months	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment	Trade based Practical & Knowledge Assessment
36 Months	Covered by VQ Holistic Test	Pre-gateway Trade based Practical & Knowledge	Pre-gateway Trade based Practical & Knowledge	Pre-gateway Trade based Practical & Knowledge	Covered by VQ Holistic Test

Key Benefit: Standardisation of Skills & Knowledge



Other Benefits:

- Ongoing progress checks for learner, employer and provider.
- Prepare the learner for End Point Assessment (if applicable).

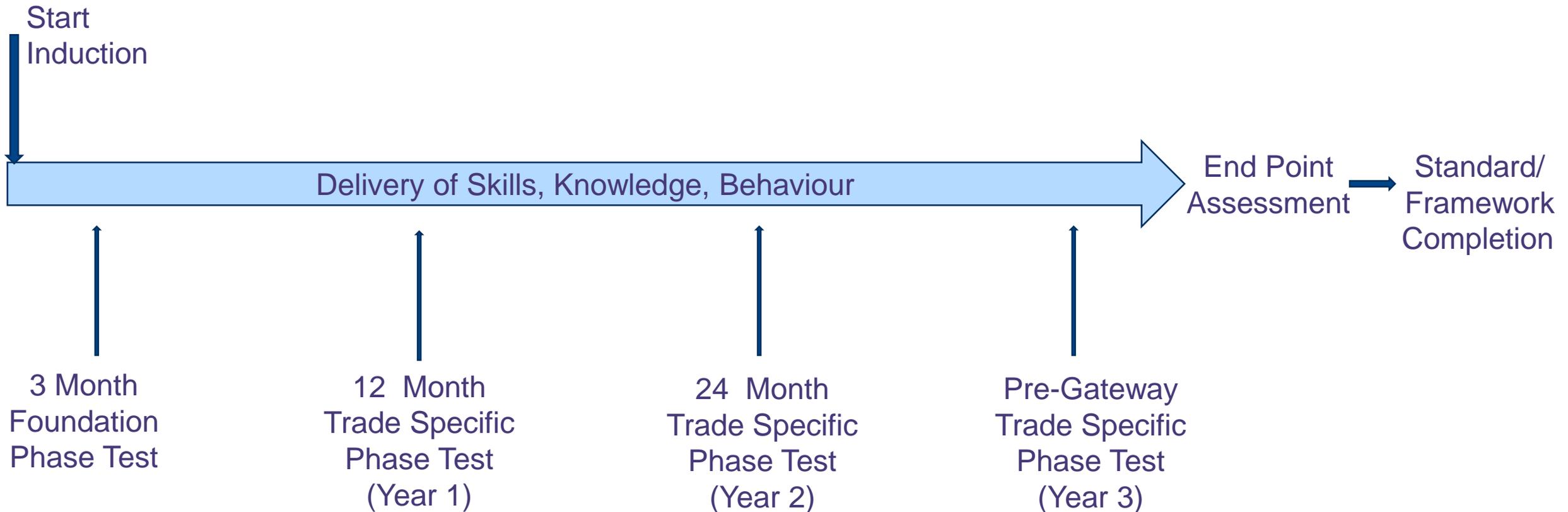
Next Steps

- ❑ ECITB Skill Centre tender process – May/June 2018.
- ❑ Tender Evaluation concludes – June/July 2018.
- ❑ ECITB Skills Centre contracts awarded – September 2018.
- ❑ ECITB Skills Centre contracts commence – 1st January 2019
- ❑ 3 Month Foundation Phase Tests commence – January 2019

Next Steps

- ECITB may consider investment into ECITB Skill Centre through a grant payment.
- ECITB must capture details of all 2018 Apprentice starts who register for phase tests.
- Phase Tests register will be used to plan, coordinate and monitor Apprentice Phase Tests.
- All Apprentices registered under ECITB Apprenticeship Phase Test programme will be given an appropriate Start Induction.

Apprentice Phase Test Delivery Model



Questions?