

# Comparing Level 2 Standards

## CURRENT GENERAL WELDER LEVEL 2 REQUIREMENTS

### GATEWAY

Apprentices will be required to have successfully achieved.

- Qualifications at level 1 in English
- Qualifications at level 1 in Mathematics.
- The employer must also be satisfied that the Apprentice has undertaken sufficient training to be ready to attempt the end point assessment.
- The employer selects the skill/knowledge modules that are the most relevant to the employing organisation. They must select two different welding processes and minimum of one material.

### EPA

### KNOWLEDGE COMPONENT

The knowledge component is based on multi-choice questioning depending on the modules selected by the employer/training provider/apprentice.

The on-line tests will include:

**Module A** 40 questions which is mandatory.

**Module B** 36 questions which is mandatory.

**Plus**, a minimum of one other test depending on the modules selected.

Apprentice must achieve **60% in all tests** for a Pass in this component. This component carries a weighting of 20% towards the final EPA grading.

### PRACTICAL AND ORAL QUESTIONING

There are **two** sections to this component and both sections carry weighted marks towards the final grade

#### The practical

- During the practical the apprentice will be required to complete two test pieces using two different processes to gain BSEN 9606-1 welder approval certification.
- Both test pieces are sent away to an independent weld testing laboratory to verify the tests and issue third party certification.
- Both test pieces must have the BSEN 9606-1 accreditation to achieve a pass for this section.
- Pass is the highest grade available for this section and carries a weighted mark of 50% towards the final EPA grading.

#### The Oral Questioning

- In this section of the component the apprentice will be required to answer 10 questions related to their work and require a mark of 60% to Pass.
- This Section carries a weighted mark of 15% towards the final EPA grade.

## NEW LEVEL 2 WELDER REQUIREMENTS

### GATEWAY

Apprentices will be required to have successfully.

- Achieved qualification at level 1 in English.
- Achieved qualification at level 1 in Maths.
- Completed a portfolio of evidence.
- The employer must also be satisfied that the Apprentice has undertaken sufficient training to be ready to attempt the end point assessment.
- Achieved two welder approval certificates in two different processes to any of the following standards.
  - AWS D1.1 Structural Steel:
  - AWS D1.2 Structural Welding - Steel
  - AWS D1.3 Structural Welding - Aluminium
  - ASME 1X
  - ISO 9606 Qualification testing of welder
  - ISO 14732 Welding personnel - approval of welding operator.
  - BS4872 Specification for approval testing of welders when welding procedure is not required.

The welder approval certificates must be current (completed in the 6 months prior to EPA or revalidated in the 6 months prior to EPA) and match with the two welding processes that are going to be selected for the EPA.

### EPA

### KNOWLEDGE COMPONENT

The knowledge component is based on multi-choice questioning and the questions will cover the requirements of K1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 20 from the Knowledge section of the assessment plan.

There will be 30 questions in the test and the apprentice will be required to achieve a minimum of 21 correct answers from the 30 questions to achieve a Pass mark.

The Pass mark is 70% and the apprentice will have 60 minutes to complete the test.

Grades available Pass, Fail

### PRACTICAL AND ORAL QUESTIONING

There are **two** sections to this component which are.

#### The practical

During the practical the apprentice will be required to complete two test pieces

- Using Two different welding processes
- And using Two different types of materials

The manually welded joints will be a minimum 200mm long with the examination length of 150mm.

The material for manually welded joints must be a minimum of 5mm and a maximum of 15mm thickness.

**Test piece 1** will be a Butt Weld complete in the PC, 2G position.

**Test piece 2** will be a Fillet weld completed in the PF, PG, PJ, PH or 3F, 5FF position.

Both test pieces will be subjected to visual inspection and a Distinction grade will be awarded if one weld achieves that grade and the other is awarded a Pass or higher.

#### The Oral Questioning

- The oral questioning can take place during or after the practical task and the time taken will be within the 6 hours allocated to this component.
- The apprentice will be asked a minimum of 4 questions related to their work and the assessor can ask further questions to seek any required clarification.

A single grade from Fail, Pass or Distinction is awarded for this component.

## PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSION

In this component the apprentice will undertake a professional discussion with the assessor that covers the following three areas.

- Application of knowledge learned during the apprenticeship.
- Role of the welder in industry.
- Professional behaviours as listed in the Apprenticeship Standard.

The interview will last for **30 minutes** and with the apprentice's consent will be recorded. Marks are awarded for each question and the apprentice must achieve a mark above 60% to pass.

The discussion is graded Pass or Fail and carries a weighted mark of 15% towards the final EPA grade.

## INTERVIEW UNDERPINNED BY PORTFOLIO EVIDENCE

In this component the apprentice will undertake an interview with the assessor and covers the following areas.

- Teamwork and communication
- Equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Environment and sustainability
- Faults, issues and escalating procedures
- Weld defects.

The interview will contain at least six questions with additional questions allowed for clarification and must last for **45 minutes**.

The discussion will be graded Pass or Fail.

## GRADING

The grading is carried out as follows for this version.

Knowledge Component	= 20% weighting
Practical Component	= 50% weighting
Oral Questioning	= 15% weighting
Professional Discussion	= 15% weighting

### EPA Grades

0 - 59%	= Fail
60- 87.4%	= Pass
87.5 - 100%	= Merit

## GRADING

The grading is carried out as follows for the new version.

Knowledge Component grades

0 - 20 marks	= Fail
21 - 30 marks	= Pass

### Practical and Oral questioning Component grades

Fail
Pass
Distinction

### Interview and Portfolio Component grades.

Fail
Pass

To achieve a Distinction, grade the apprentice must achieve a Distinction grade in the Practical and two Pass grades.

Three component Pass grades will result in a final EPA grade of Pass.

If the apprentice requires a second attempt at any of the components, the highest grade that can then be awarded is a Pass.

Please contact EngEPA for further information on Mechanised welding EPA test requirements

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