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FOR BUSINESS

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Prentisiaethau
Apprenticeships

EMPLOYERS
GUIDE TO APPRENTICESHIPS
LABORATORY AND SCIENCE TECHNICIANS

WELCOME

These qualifications are designed for learners in employment within a laboratory environment helping to carry out tests, research and investigations in a variety of industries or educational environments.

The assessment teams at Cambria for Business work closely with companies, managers, departments and individuals to tailor assessments to suit the specific operation and employee's job role.

WELSH GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDING OF APPRENTICESHIPS

Prior to the apprenticeship sign up, a Health and Safety enquiry will be made to your company to confirm that statutory Health and Safety policies are in place.

We will monitor the Health and Safety of your apprentice regularly throughout their training program. The work-based assessor will conduct a review of the training and work placement at least every 61 days. To integrate the review with the work-based NVQ, this is often conducted monthly. The review will give employers the chance to comment and get involved with your learner's training and check their progress.

NVQ/QCF TARGET SETTING

On each apprentice review, the work-based assessor will confirm agreed targets with the apprentice for what should be achieved by their next visit. It will also give the assessor time to review and feedback on any assessment work that has been presented and plan further assessments for the future.

WHAT WORK-BASED QUALIFICATIONS WILL BE SUITABLE FOR MY APPRENTICE?

Enquiries will be made into the nature of the apprenticeship and, if required, a visit will be made to the premises in order to understand the work the apprentice will be undertaking.

Qualifications and pathways should be selected that will fit the apprenticeship requirements and accurately reflect the learner's job role so that they can demonstrate their competence.

CAN MY APPRENTICE DO MORE TRAINING DURING THEIR APPRENTICESHIP?

Of course, but we advise that it is proportionate so that the apprentice is able to complete their existing apprenticeship requirements.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD APPRENTICE?

A person who is self motivated, engaged, hard working and willing to learn. Some programmes start at anytime of the year.

SUPPORT FROM TRAINING PROVIDER

Apprentices will receive ongoing support from college staff, alongside specific one to one guidance and support from their Work-Based Assessor.

WHAT ARE THE COURSES WE OFFER IN WORK BASED LABORATORY TECHNICAL SKILLS?

NVQ

The NVQ is an occupational competence qualification that will assess learners knowledge and skills to work as a laboratory technician within a range of environments.

The qualification contains mandatory units covering generic knowledge and skills including health and safety, and efficient working relationships.

Optional units cover areas such as testing, sampling, stock control, preparing resources and equipment, and providing technical support.

There are no prerequisites to achieve these qualifications other than experience and training within the workplace.

Achievement of a Level 3 also enables an individual to achieve recognition as a Registered Science Technician (RSciTech)

Certificate in Laboratory Technical Skills

The certificate will provide learners with the underpinning knowledge and skills to work as a laboratory technician within a range of environments.

Learners will be expected to have GCSEs or equivalent at grade C or above in English, Maths and Science

The course is made up of three mandatory units and two optional units:

Mandatory Units:

- Laboratory Health, Safety and Environmental Practices (4 credits) Guided learning time - 27 hours
- Managing Operations within the Laboratory (3 credits) Guided learning time - 21 hours
- Advanced Laboratory Procedures (8 credits) Guided learning time – 60 hours

2 Optional Units:

- Biological and Biochemical Laboratory Techniques (5 credits) Guided learning time – 42 hours
- Chemical laboratory techniques (5 credits) Guided learning time – 42 hours

Assessment

Internal –

- Written and practical exercises set by awarding rganisation, marked internally

External –

2.5 hour exam written and marked by the awarding organisation

The course will be delivered on one day a week over 35 weeks in a dedicated, modern laboratory on the Deeside site of Coleg Cambria, that is fully equipped to meet the needs of learners on this course. The delivery of the scientific content will be based around practical activities that will develop understanding of relevant knowledge and its application.