



SVQ in Sawmilling at SCQF Level 5

Qualification Number: GP26 45

Qualification Specification

Updated: 09 April 2024

PURPOSE

The SVQ in Sawmilling at SCQF Level 5 is nationally recognised competence based qualification. The primary purpose of this qualification is to enable work-based learners to demonstrate specific competences and knowledge appropriate for the day to day activities in a sawmilling environment either converting logs into boards or secondary sawing and planing.

The qualification also requires knowledge of health and safety in a machine environment and a contribution to the efficient working practices. The qualification includes a choice of units from a list of other units to best suit their own job role including sawing, planing, moulding/profiling etc. Learners will be able to relate job knowledge to their practical competencies and apply competencies to their knowledge.

It is expected that the prospective learner will have had sufficient initial assessment by the centre to establish the likely success of the learner, together with the learner specific learning requirements to maximise success.

The aim of the qualification is to acknowledge an individuals achievement whilst promoting a wider understanding of health and safety, efficient working practices and the use of machines. Those achieving the SVQ in Sawmilling at SCQF Level 5 will be able to produce components and apply related knowledge in a commercial setting.

The qualification is intended for those who have access to a limited range of machines to carry out a limited range of operations.

The qualification is part of the Modern Apprenticeship for Wood and Timber Industries for learners employed in the wood and timber industry and work in Scotland.

OUTCOMES

In setting out a clearly-defined level of achievement, this qualification will:

1. Enhance the knowledge and job satisfaction of learners - providing them with a means of progression to higher level job roles and qualifications.
2. Provide employers with an open and transparent basis for judging the suitability of learners for employment and promotion.
3. Facilitate job movement throughout the timber sector and other related areas of the timber industry.

Specific outcomes for the qualification are listed under the individual unit description.

TARGET GROUP

This qualification is suitable for those working in a sawmilling role within the wood and timber industry who want to gain recognition for the competencies and understanding in the basic operation of wood working machines.

Learners are likely to be working as wood machinists.

Job role	Type of company
Moulder/planer/ saw operator or machinist	Timber yard Builders merchant Manufacturing Sawmill
Sawyer	Sawmill

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no entry qualifications or age limits required for this qualification.

Assessment for this qualification is open to any learner who has the potential and opportunity to reach the standards laid down for this qualification. An initial assessment of past experience and current skills, knowledge and understanding should be carried out prior to commencement, to determine suitability for this qualification.

Aids or appliances, which are designed to alleviate disability, may be used during assessment, providing they do not compromise the standard required.

PROGRESSION

Success in this qualification prepares learners for progression in the timber industry. Learners may have the opportunity to progress into supervisory and management roles taking suitable qualifications. Learners are encouraged to consider belonging to a professional institute or similar. Centres are encouraged to make learners aware of relevant associations and related professional bodies.

After completing this qualification, learners will be able to take on more specialist tasks in their area of expertise and/or move onto the Level 6/7 Modern Apprenticeship.

PROGRAMME ORGANISATION

Programmes leading to the SVQ in Sawmilling at SCQF Level 5 can be organised and delivered by providers who have gained centre and qualification approval from PIABC. To achieve this they need to complete the PIABC centre and qualification approval procedures available from www.piabc.org.uk. In completing the documentation and the approval visit, centres need to demonstrate their ability to deliver high quality education leading to the qualification.

Centres are expected to employ robust quality assurance processes. PIABC will appoint its own moderators to ensure the effective operation of these processes and the maintenance of standards of quality.

The organisation of the qualification is at the discretion of the centre and will take into account the aims, aspirations and experience of the learners.

Centres are encouraged to choose the most suitable curriculum model for their learners. Whilst the sequential delivery of parts of the unit is a possibility and may provide the most straightforward way of determining completion, it may be that some degree of integration of elements will occur, or that other methods of delivery are more appropriate to meet the needs of learners. It should be noted however that the whole unit and all the criteria will be assessed.

Centres must ensure that adequate arrangements are in place for supporting learners. This could be either through separate tutorial sessions or through the use of time within structured study sessions. Centres using on-line or other forms of open learning must ensure that appropriate tutorial support is provided for learners.

The employer's engagement in learning and assessment opportunities will be paramount in securing timely achievement and a participative role should be encouraged.

In relevant circumstances, centres are recommended to provide career related information and guidance to their learners.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING

Those learners employed in the timber and related industries, completing this SVQ without following a recognised training programme will come to the qualification with varying levels of existing knowledge and/or practical experience of some parts of the syllabus. Training needs should be identified and gaps in knowledge and competency should be filled with a planned delivery of an individual learning plan. This should be utilised in preparing for teaching and assessment. The sharing of knowledge which has the potential to lead to a high level of understanding should be encouraged by the use of staff with direct experience in the wood machining and related industries. This must, of course, be balanced against a sound understanding of the theoretical understanding.

The relationship between theory and practice is a theme that should be reflected in the assessments for the programme. Therefore in structured learning and individual work, learners should be aware of the requirement to develop a theoretical understanding to their practical work and a practical application to their theoretical understanding.

Those developing learning programmes should expect to achieve all the learning outcomes. It may be useful to have workbooks for use either at home or in the workplace.

Assessment guidance can be found in the PIABC Centre Handbook for Competence Based Qualifications which should be used alongside the National Skills Academy for Food and Drink's Assessment Strategy for the Wood Sector.

QUALIFICATION DESCRIPTION

The SVQ in Sawmilling at SCQF Level 5 follows the quality criteria for NOS for designing units and qualifications and contains the features listed as follows:

- NOS reference number, title, credit value and level.
- Each unit consists of:
 - Performance criteria: This describes what a learner needs to be able to do as a result of the process of learning.
 - Knowledge and understanding: These are the things learners are expected to know and understand as a result of the process of learning.
 - Some units also indicate the intended scope of the performance criteria

QUALIFICATION LEVEL

This Scottish Vocational Qualification has been credit rated against the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) as a Level 5 qualification.

Generally, learners will demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of processes, materials and terminology relating ideas and knowledge to practical contexts in roles such as purchasing, sales and yard operative. Tasks may include selecting, adjusting and using appropriate tools and materials and/or advising customers using product knowledge.

Learners may be working alone or as part of a team and will show an awareness of the role of others associated with the job role.

QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE

The SVQ in Sawmilling at SCQF Level 5 qualification is a nationally recognised qualification consisting of mandatory and optional units. The mandatory units cover those areas which have a common approach, such as health and safety, effectiveness, timber and timber panel knowledge and the principle learning outcomes for the job role. The optional units offer a choice that can be combined to meet the needs of an individual's specific job role together with the organisations and learners preferences. These job specific units confirm both skills, competences and the necessary related job knowledge e.g. saw round timber or sawing/planning. Additional units are chosen to further match the job role e.g. moving, preparing timber and maintaining machinery.

Credit values are determined by the total notional learning hours (teaching + demonstrations + practice + reflection + assessment - including developing competence in the work environment, etc.) divided by 10. For example 4 credits reflect a total learning time of 40 hours. Learning time is usually much greater than direct tutor contact. Credit values have been calculated unit by unit - in isolation of each other - such that the unit is a stand alone unit; therefore Centres may find that where learners are completing a number of units to achieve the complete qualification, actual learning time will reduce (i.e. the actual learning time for the entire qualification is unlikely to be a sum total of the credits of the individual units taken).

Learning time will clearly be reduced if learners hold credits from prior learning. Learners will be expected to carry out additional reading, practice and other work to complete each unit and prepare for assessment.

Structure information: Learners must take 6 units (2 mandatory, plus 1 unit from Group A or B and 3 units from Group C). Note: It is not permitted that a learner chooses the same units in Group C that they have already chosen in Groups A or B.

Mandatory Units			
Unit No.	Title	Level	Credit
PROHSS1	Make sure your own actions reduce risks to health & safety	5	8
PROSM001	Contribute to the effectiveness of work in a commercial setting	5	5
Group A (Round Timber Conversion Pathway)			
Unit No.	Title	Level	Credit
PROSM04	Prepare and convert round timber	5	6
Group B (Secondary Conversion Pathway)			
Unit No.	Title	Level	Credit
COSVR468	Produce sawn wood and wood-based products	5	20
COSVR469	Produce planed wood and wood-based products	5	15
COSVR470	Produce profiled wood and wood-based products	5	21

Group C (Optional Units)			
Unit No.	Title	Level	Credit
PROSM02	Identify, sort, stack and package timber based products	5	4
PROSM03	Process and sort by-products	5	6
PROSM04	Prepare and convert round timber	5	6
PROSM05	Move and handle round timber	5	5
PROSM06	Drying of timber	5	6
PROSM07	Sharpen and maintain tooling in the workplace	5	5
PROSM09	Abrasive wheel operations in the wood industry	5	7
COSVR468	Produce sawn wood and wood-based products	5	20
COSVR469	Produce planed wood and wood-based products	5	15
COSVR470	Produce profiled wood and wood-based products	5	21
COSVR477	Machinery and equipment maintenance	5	16

ASSESSMENT

Assessment principles should follow recognised good practice. Assessment guidance can be found in the PIABC Centre Handbook for Competence Based Qualifications which should be used alongside the National Skills Academy for Food and Drink's Assessment Strategy for the Wood Sector.

Simulation is not permitted.

The qualification must be assessed using the following assessment method:

- Portfolio of Evidence

QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATION

All performance and knowledge criteria are to be achieved. This qualification is not grade; certification for this qualification is issued on the basis of awarding a pass only. Whilst there is no grading to this qualification; the training delivery and feedback should promote the notion of continued improvement and craftsmanship.

REGULATORY INFORMATION

Date Accredited From:	25/07/2018
Accreditation End Date:	31/07/2025
Certificate End Date:	31/07/2027

GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Performance Criteria	This describes what a learner needs to be able to do as a result of the process of learning.
Knowledge and understanding	These are the things learners are expected to know and understand as a result of the process of learning.
Centre	The organisation that is approved by PIABC for the purposes of preparing learners for assessment.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact PIABC Limited directly at:

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