

EPA Specification Utilities Engineering Technician



EPA Specification Section 5 – Assessment

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Contacts

This specification has been designed to provide all the advice and guidance you need to prepare yourself and your apprentices for end-point assessment. However, if you have any further questions please contact the EUIAS Help Desk using one of the following:

Help Desk email: enquiries@euias.co.uk

Help Desk telephone: 0121 713 8310

Assessment Summary

The end-point assessment for Utilities Engineering Technician (UET) consists of three components:

Observation

- This is an assessment which will take 4 hours. It involves an independent assessor observing and questioning an apprentice undertaking work as part of their normal duties in their workplace. Simulation is not permitted. The independent assessor will ask questions in relation to underpinning knowledge or where an opportunity to observe an activity has not naturally occurred.

Interview

- This is a face-to-face interview which lasts for 60 minutes. It consists of an Independent Assessor asking an apprentice a series of questions to assess their competence against the KSBs. The interview is underpinned by an evidence portfolio which is collated by the apprentice. The portfolio is not directly assessed, but is reviewed by the assessor and must be made available to EUIAS 2 weeks before the interview.

Multiple-Choice Test

- The test ensures that the apprentice has acquired the underpinning knowledge to enable them to perform their role. The test consists of 40 multiple choice questions to be answered in a 60-minute assessment under controlled conditions. Each question will present the apprentice with 4 response answers from which they must select the correct one.

Roles and responsibilities

EUIAS will provide assessors.

The employer/provider will provide the knowledge test invigilator in accordance with EUIAS Invigilation guidelines. This will be agreed at the Registration stage (see Section 3).

The employer and training provider will provide the venues for all assessments, including settings for the practical observation which must be suitably equipped to allow the apprentice to attempt all aspects of the practical. The employer or training provider will provide all necessary tools and equipment for the apprentice.

The employer or training provider will adequately prepare apprentices for the end-point assessments and will ensure the portfolio evidence, to support the apprentice's interview, is submitted to EUIAS prior to interview at an agreed date.

Retake and resit information

Apprentices who fail one or more assessment methods will be offered the opportunity to take a re-sit or a re-take at the employer's discretion. The apprentice's employer will need to agree that either a re-sit or re-take is an appropriate course of action. Apprentices should have a supportive action plan to prepare for a re-sit or a re-take.

An apprentice who fails one or more assessment methods, and therefore the EPA in the first instance, will be required to re-sit or re-take the failed assessment method(s) only. The timescales for a re-sit/re-take is agreed between the employer and EUIAS.

A re-sit is typically taken within two months of the EPA outcome notification. The timescale for a re-take is dependent on how much re-training is required and is typically taken within four months of the EPA outcome notification. All assessment methods must be taken within a six month period, otherwise the entire EPA will need to be re-sat/re-taken.

Re-sits and re-takes are not offered to apprentices wishing to move from pass to a higher grade.

Where any assessment method has to be re-sat or re-taken, the apprentice will be awarded a maximum EPA grade of pass, unless the EPAO determines there are exceptional circumstances requiring a re-sit or re-take.

The questions asked during a resit of observation with questions will be different from those asked during the first attempt.

The questions asked during a resit of the multiple-choice test will be different from those asked during the first attempt.

Weightings and Overall Grading

All assessment methods are weighted equally in their contribution to the overall EPA grade. Performance in the EPA will determine the apprenticeship grade of fail, pass, or distinction.

Independent Assessors will individually grade the observation with questions and interview, according to the requirements. A person appointed by the EUIAS will mark and grade the multiple-choice test.

The individual assessment method grades are combined to determine the overall EPA grade. Apprentices who fail one or more assessment method will be awarded an overall EPA 'fail'. In order to gain an overall EPA 'pass', apprentices must achieve a pass in all the assessment methods.

In order to achieve an overall EPA distinction', apprentices must achieve a distinction in the observation with questions, a distinction in the interview and a pass in the multiple-choice test.

Grades from individual assessment methods should be combined in the following way to determine the grade of the EPA as a whole:

Observation	Interview	Multiple-Choice Test	Overall Grading
Any Grade	Any Grade	Fail	Fail
Any Grade	Fail	Any Grade	Fail
Fail	Any Grade	Any Grade	Fail
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Distinction	Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	Distinction	Pass	Pass
Distinction	Distinction	Pass	Distinction