Level 2 End-Point Assessment for Gas Network Operative



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 Gas Network Craftsperson (GNO) consists of three components:

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 75-minute assessment under controlled conditions. Each question will present the apprentice with 4 options from which they must select the correct one

Practical Assessment with questioning

This is a skills-based practical exercise which will take 11 – 12 hours. The exact duration will be similar to the time expected for a competent Gas Network Operative to complete a similar task. The task will be a set task or a series of set tasks. The practical task will take place in either the workplace or a simulated environment that reflects the real working environment appropriate to the task(s). The practical task will be set and agreed by EUIAS, taking account of workplace considerations via discussions and meetings with the apprentice's employer. During the test the Independent Assessor can question the apprentice to ascertain the depth and breadth of their underpinning knowledge

Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence

- This is a face-to-face professional interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence which takes
 place after successful completion of the multiple choice test and practical assessment with
 questioning
- The apprentice can refer to and illustrate their answers with evidence from their portfolio, however the portfolio evidence will not be directly assessed
- The apprentices will be expected to understand and use relevant occupational language that would be typical of a competent gas network operative
- The portfolio must be submitted within three-weeks of the practical assessment completion
- The Independent Assessor will ask a minimum of nine open questions and follow up with additional questions to seek clarification
- The interview must last 45 minutes. The independent assessor has the discretion to increase the time of the interview by up to 10%, to allow the apprentice to complete their last answer
- The independent assessor will holistically assess the interview underpinned by the portfolio using the grading criteria for this assessment. A report will be completed which will include all grading decisions made by the independent assessor. The report must be submitted to EUIAS within 3 days of the interview

Roles and responsibilities

EUIAS will provide independent assessors.

EUIAS can provide the invigilator, or the employer can provide the invigilator in accordance with EUIAS Invigilation guidelines. This will be agreed at the Registration stage (see Section 3).

The employer or training provider will provide the venues for all assessments, including settings for the practical assessment with questioning which must be suitably equipped to allow the apprentice to attempt all aspects of the practical assessment with questioning. 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 practical assessment evidence for each apprentice is submitted to EUIAS prior to end-point assessment at an agreed date.

Retake and resit information

Elements 1 and 2 below can be delivered in any order, however EUIAS recommend beginning with the multiple choice test. Element 3 **must** always be delivered last:

- Element 1: Multiple Choice Test
- Element 2: Practical Assessment with questioning
- Element 3: Interview underpinned by portfolio

Apprentices who fail one or more assessment method will be offered the opportunity to take a re-sit or a re-take. A re-sit does not require further learning, whereas a re-take does.

Apprentices should have a supportive action plan to prepare for the re-sit or a re-take. The apprentice's employer will need to agree that either a re-sit or re-take is an appropriate course of action.

An apprentice who fails an assessment method, and therefore the EPA in the first instance, will be required to re-sit any failed assessment methods only.

Re-sits and or re-takes must be taken and passed within three-months of the fail notification, otherwise the entire EPA must be re-taken, unless in the opinion of the EUIAS exceptional circumstances apply outside the control of the apprentice or their employer.

There are no restrictions on overall EPA grading where apprentices need to re-sit and/or re-take the multiple-choice test or interview underpinned by portfolio but do not need to re-sit and/or retake the practical assessment with questioning. That means, apprentices can still get an overall distinction if they achieved a distinction in their practical assessment with questioning on first attempt even if they need to re-sit or re-take one of the other assessment methods. Apprentices who need to re-sit and/or re-take the practical assessment with questioning will only be able to achieve a pass for this assessment method and thus will only be able to achieve an overall EPA pass, subject to gaining a pass in the other two assessment methods.

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

If the apprentice fails one element the apprentice must, with immediate effect, be withdrawn from the

EPA process. The EUIAS will provide feedback to the employer and or training provider and agree an action plan for the apprentice.

The apprentice will only be expected to retake the GNO EPA element that they have failed. The retake **must only** be carried out after one month has elapsed since the first scheduled date of the EPA element. The apprentice **cannot achieve higher than a pass** for the EPA element that they have had to retake.

Overall Grading

Each assessment method is marked separately and awarded either a fail, pass or distinction.

The multiple choice test grade is based on the percentage score achieved. The grade and mark for both the practical assessment and the interview is based on the number and level of criteria achieved.

Assessment method 1 – Practical assessment with questioning	Assessment method 2 – Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence	Assessment method 3 – Multiple-choice test	Overall grading
Fail	Any grade	Any grade	Fail
Any grade	Fail	Any grade	Fail
Any grade	Any grade	Fail	Fail
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Distinction	Pass	Pass	Distinction

Any grade = fail, pass or distinction