

Utilities Engineering Technician

Main differences between AP02 and AP03

AP03 is replacing AP02. For a full description of how EUIAS carries out end-point assessment for UET AP03, download the EPA Specification from euias.co.uk/end-point-assessment/epa-resources.

Both assessment plans relate to the same standard, ST0159 v1.1.

Below is a list of the main ways in which AP03 differs from AP02.

- The assessment methods differ. In AP03 the three assessment methods are
 - A knowledge test
 - A practical observation with questions
 - An interview underpinned by a portfolio.

- In AP03 some of the KSB criteria have been divided into two, with each part assessed by different assessment methods. These are:

Element	Text	Assessed in Test	Assessed in Practical	Assessed in Interview
S7	Communicate with and provide ...	NA	S7i	S7ii
S9	Read, understand and interpret ...	S9i	S9ii	NA
S13	Install, maintain, replace ...	NA	S13i	S13ii
B4	Work effectively and safely ...	NA	B4i	B4ii
M2	Inspect and monitor ...	NA	M2i	M2ii
M8	Test, service and repair ...	NA	M8i	M8ii

Element	Text	Assessed in Test	Assessed in Practical	Assessed in Interview
I2	Maintain instrumentation ...	NA	I2i	I2ii
I4	Use instrumentation and control ...	NA	I4i	I4ii
I8	Repair, maintain, configure and ...	NA	I8i	I8ii

- Assessment is carried out by independent assessors; there is no option to source assessors from the employer or provider
 - There is no 'internal standardisation'
 - There is no final decision panel
 - Each element of the standard is only assessed by one assessment method; there is no 'double assessment'.
 - The knowledge test comprises 40 questions (the previous assessment plan did not specify a number of questions)
 - The knowledge test only assesses three elements of the standard: K1, K3 and S9i
 - All three assessment methods take place after Gateway, although the portfolio (which is NOT assessed but supports the interview) is compiled during the last months of training
 - Timings are very precise: the practical observation with questions is 4 hours with no more than 10% (24 minutes) variation permitted, and the interview supported by portfolio is 60 minutes with no more than 10% (6 minutes) variation permitted
 - The EPA portfolio should have, typically, 18 pieces of evidence. This does not mean 18 jobs, but 18 pieces of evidence specifically covering elements that are assessed in the interview. Some pieces of evidence may cover more than one element of the UET standard. EUIAS provides an exemplar portfolio mapping document
 - The portfolio must be made available to EUIAS before the Interview to allow the assessor to review it, and hence, contextualise the questions to be asked

- The portfolio must clearly reference the elements of the standard covered to enable the assessor to find each piece of evidence efficiently
- The apprentice is allowed to reference the evidence in the portfolio to support their responses in the EPA Interview
- The practical observation (trade test) must be carried out on employer premises and designed to cover the knowledge, skills and behaviours specified in the standard
- Each assessment method is no longer 'weighted'. The overall grading is determined by the combination of grades achieved in each assessment
- Grades available for each assessment method are different:
 - Knowledge Test: Pass / Fail
 - Observation with questions: Pass / Distinction / Fail
 - Interview: Pass / Distinction / Fail
- Overall: Pass / Distinction / Fail



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