



**SPECIFICATION - LEVEL 3
HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE SKILLED
OPERATIVE v1.0 (ST0053)**



Introduction

The Highways Maintenance Skilled Operative Level 2 apprenticeship develops the skills to maintain and repair rural and urban roads, excluding motorways. Work includes excavating and reinstating highways, repairing potholes, replacing pavements and kerbs, and laying new surfaces. Operatives also set up temporary traffic management to keep road users safe, working to industry standards and complying with health, safety, and environmental requirements.

Key Information	
Name	Highways Maintenance Skilled Operative ST0053
Level	2
Duration	18 months on-programme, 2 months EPA window
Funding Band	£9000
Prerequisites and Entry Requirements	Before final assessment of the qualification, the Learner must be employed in a relevant role, meet Gateway requirements before taking the End-Point Assessment. have completed a portfolio of evidence and, if applicable, have passed the required Functional Skills. There are no mandatory qualifications required for this this End-Point Assessment.
Methods of Assessment	There are two assessment methods, practical skills assessment in a simulated environment and a knowledge test
Simulated Assessment	The practical skills assessment and questioning will take place in a simulated environment selected by the EPAO. This may include the EPAO's premises, a training provider's premises, an employer's training facility, a test centre, or another suitable simulated environment.
Grading	Learners will be assessed across the 2 assessment components and awarded a grade of Fail, Pass, or Distinction. The overall result from each assessment method is combined to decide the overall grade of a Fail, Pass or Distinction. Grading criteria are outlined in the End-Point Assessment Plan and associated guidance documents.
Link to assessment plan	Highways maintenance skilled operative / Skills England

End-Point Assessment Objective

The End-Point Assessment (EPA) confirms that the apprentice has achieved the required competence to work independently as a Highways Maintenance Skilled Operative, demonstrating the ability to maintain and repair rural and urban roads safely, to industry standards, and in compliance with health, safety, and environmental requirements across a range of work environments.

Programme Structure

Throughout the programme, apprentices will gain practical skills and underpinning knowledge in a variety of settings. They will be employed in a relevant role for a typically 18 months, during which they will compile a portfolio of evidence with support from their assessor. The assessor will monitor progress against the standard to ensure the apprentice is fully prepared for the EPA.

Available Support

Sample assessment materials for the practical skills assessment and knowledge test are available to approved training providers to support learner preparation and ensure consistency in delivery.

KSB Mapping Table

Knowledge	Assessment Method
The principles of health, safety and welfare and how they must be applied in relation to their own work and others.	Knowledge test
The responsibilities under current legislation (including Health and safety at Work Act 1974, Provision and Use of Workplace Equipment 1998, Manual Handling Operations regulations 1992 and official guidance (risk assessment, method statements) to undertake work.	Knowledge test
How to work in accordance with the National Highway Sector Schemes, Industry Codes of Practice, the New Roads & Street Works Act 1991 and other guidance relevant to the occupation.	Knowledge test
Understand the structure of the highway, civil engineering methods, construction technology and have knowledge of different road categories and types, construction materials and working methods.	Knowledge test
How to identify, locate and excavate around underground services such as gas and power cables to avoid strikes and loss of service	Knowledge test Practical skills assessment
How to carry out excavation and reinstatement of the highway.	Practical skills assessment
How to carry out reactive and planned repair to damaged surfaces, including repairs to potholes, replacement and reinstatement of pavements and kerbs and laying new surfaces.	Knowledge test Practical skills assessment
How to prepare and operate powered power and hand tools, pedestrian plant, machinery for generator's, pumps, pedestrian operated plant or machines (e.g. pushed roller), mixers, compressors and self-powered tools.	Knowledge test Practical skills assessment
Know how to prepare and set up Temporary Traffic control using traffic lights, bollards and barriers.	Knowledge test Practical skills assessment
Have an understanding and knowledge of Traffic Management on rural and urban roads including safety zones, movement and flow of traffic and pedestrian restrictions.	Knowledge test
Know how to carry out clearance and maintenance of rural and urban roads to current legislation, this includes the process and procedure for removal of dead animals (who to inform and what precautions must be taken).	Knowledge test
Skill	Assessment Method
Apply appropriate health, safety and environment procedures when working on the roads	Practical skills assessment
Plan and undertake work practice productively when carrying out repairs to potholes, pavements and kerbs, and laying new surfaces on rural and urban roads	Practical skills assessment

Read, interpret and work to drawings, specifications and highways information. Highways information will include details on the use of safety barriers, cones, traffic flows and safety zones to work in when working on the highway.	Practical skills assessment
Use underground cable locators to identify buried water, gas or sewer lines or other utility services and once identified excavate by hand around the line to stop any damage and disruption to services.	Practical skills assessment
Apply safe working practise for moving, storing, lifting and handling of resources.	Practical skills assessment
Excavation and reinstatement of the highway by carrying out maintenance and repairs, including removal of material within the road or road side using hand or power tools and reinstatement of the area using concrete, screeds, sub-base, aggregates or bituminous materials.	Practical skills assessment
Install Street Ironworks (drain access covers and frames and gully gates situated on the road) to given work instructions.	Knowledge test
Install Street Ironworks to given work instructions relating to access covers and frames and gully gates situated on the road.	Practical skills assessment
Prepare and operate powered tools or pedestrian plant, machinery or equipment for use on roads. This will include machinery for generator's, pumps, pedestrian operated plant (e.g. pushed roller), mixers, compressors and self-powered tools (pneumatic drill).	Knowledge test Practical skills assessment
Prepare, set up and work within temporary traffic management (using traffic lights, cones and barriers to section off elements of the road from vehicles and pedestrians) on urban and rural roads whilst excavating and re-instating the highway.	Knowledge test Practical skills assessment
Work with other sub-contractors on larger schemes (e.g. traffic management).	Knowledge test
Behaviours	Assessment Method
Effective communication: oral, written, listening, the use of signalling, body language, presentation.	Practical skills assessment
Teamwork: work effectively with others including with limited supervision.	Practical skills assessment
Independent working: take responsibility for completion of their own work.	Practical skills assessment
Logical thinking: use clear and valid reasoning when making decisions to undertake the work instructions.	Practical skills assessment
Working effectively: undertake the work in a reliable and productive manner.	Practical skills assessment
Time management: use own time effectively to complete the work instructions to schedule.	Practical skills assessment
Adaptability: be able to adjust to changes to the work instructions.	Practical skills assessment
Assertiveness and confidence: able to resist pressures to work following unsafe practices.	Practical skills assessment
Respect: apply equality, diversity and inclusion in dealing with others.	Practical skills assessment
Commitment to safe working.	Knowledge test

