

Apprenticeship Standard

(England only)



Arborist v1.2

Industry	Land-Based	Lantra code	ST0223
Level	2	Typical duration	18 months
Funding band	£12,000	EPA cost	£1,450
Venue	Workplace or Training Centre		

Introduction to this Apprenticeship Standard

The broad purpose of the occupation is the care and maintenance of trees for their benefits and values in diverse urban and rural locations, from street trees, city parks and urban woodlands to country estates and private gardens.

The industry manages trees adjacent to highways, railways, watercourses and power lines. The work of an Arborist involves diverse activities such as chainsaw work, aerial tree work, pruning, dismantling of trees, and using machinery such as brushwood chippers.

Arborists play an important role in managing biodiversity by carrying out practical solutions in the management of trees, including at times those that are rare or in a heritage environment. The Arborist is not only tasked with the practical management of the ageing tree process, but the care of the next generation of trees, which will be vitally important for the future generations. This work includes the management of pests and disease, and formative pruning of young trees in order to form a good canopy structure for the longevity of trees.

In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts with many different people during a typical working day, including managers, supervisors, contract managers to local tree officers and arboricultural consultants overseeing arboricultural works. Other interactions may involve stakeholders, clients, landowners, and organisations managing built infrastructure, for example utility companies, highways, street lighting, waterways, railways. The most important interactions will be with clients and members of the public and will involve using a range of communication methods and techniques from fielding complaints and concerns, to explaining why an arboricultural operation is to be carried out.

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for applying best practice for the practical side of the arboriculture industry. This will include felling, climbing, pruning and dismantling of trees, and the use of machinery like woodchippers and stump grinders. Ground-based duties include preparing the work site, kit maintenance, formative pruning and hedge maintenance.

Typical job titles include: Arborist, Climbing Arborist, Tree Surgeon.





On-programme Apprentice activity and tracking

Apprentices will need to develop the occupational standard's knowledge, skills and behaviours in order to achieve this Apprenticeship:

- **A portfolio** – typically 25 pieces of evidence related to the knowledge, skills and behaviours assessed by the professional discussion
- **A record of off-the-job-training** – in line with the Apprenticeship funding rules.

The on-programme portfolio will typically contain 25 discrete pieces of evidence that have required the Apprentice to demonstrate the range of skills, knowledge and behaviours. This may include workplace documentation, witness statements, annotated photographs and video clips. Reflective accounts and self-evaluations should not be included as evidence in the portfolio.



Mandatory Qualifications

English and Mathematics qualifications in line with the Apprenticeship funding rules.

In addition, all of the qualifications/training courses as outlined in the Gateway Criteria below need to be completed.



Gateway Criteria

The Apprentice will be entered for End Point Assessment (EPA) once the Employer is satisfied that the requirements of the standard have been met and can be evidenced to an End Point Assessment Organisation and that the Apprentice is consistently working at or above the level set out in the standard.

- Apprentices must complete and submit their portfolio prior to taking their EPA
- Evidence of off-the-job training – in line with the Apprenticeship funding rules
- English and Mathematics qualifications in line with the Apprenticeship funding rules
- Apprentices must have undertaken a minimum of 12 months of training before taking the EPA
- Level 3 Award or training and assessment in emergency first aid at work minimum 1 day course (face-to-face), carried out by either an awarding organisation, a UKAS accredited trade body or voluntary aid society recognised by government as specified in HSE document GEIS 3
- City and Guilds Level 2 Award in Safe Use of a Manually Fed Wood Chipper (Ofqual regulated)
- Traffic Management (NRSWA Unit 002 Signing, Lighting and Guarding) **OR** Sector Scheme 12D (Chapter 8) (Level 2)
- City and Guilds Level 2 Certificate of Competence in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross-Cutting (Ofqual regulated) **OR** Lantra Awards Level 2 Award in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross Cutting (Ofqual regulated)
- City and Guilds Level 2 Certificate of Competence in Felling Small Trees up to 380mm (Ofqual regulated) **OR** Lantra Awards Level 2 Award in Felling and Processing Trees up to 380mm (Ofqual regulated)
- City and Guilds Level 2 Certificate of Competence in Tree Climbing and Aerial Rescue (Ofqual regulated) **OR** Lantra Awards Level 2 Award in Accessing a Tree using a Rope and Harness (Ofqual regulated) **PLUS** Lantra Awards Level 3 Award in Aerial Tree Rescue Operations (Ofqual regulated)
- City and Guilds Level 2 Certificate of Competence in Using a Chainsaw from Rope and Harness (Ofqual regulated) **OR** Lantra Awards Level 3 Award in Aerial Cutting of Trees with a Chainsaw Using Free-Fall Techniques (Ofqual regulated).





Gateway Declaration

The Lantra Awards Gateway Declaration form must be completed, signed and dated by the Employer, Apprentice and Training Provider and uploaded onto the apprenticeship standards management system as part of the EPA Gateway process prior to the EPA taking place.

End Point Assessment – Demonstrating Learning

The End Point Assessment consists of two components:

Practical Assessment with questions and answers

The Apprentice will be observed one-to-one by the Independent End Point Assessor (IEPA), completing a practical assessment consisting of four practical tasks to be completed in controlled conditions. The practical tasks are designed to cover the Apprenticeship Standard knowledge, skills and behaviours and will include verbal questioning by the IEPA.

The practical assessment with questions will take 270 minutes to complete.

Professional discussion underpinned by a portfolio of evidence

The professional discussion is a 60 minute structured one-to-one discussion between the Apprentice and the IEPA. The discussion enables the Apprentice to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and behaviours within the standard, and will use the Apprentice's portfolio to check the Apprentice's competence and fully review the understanding of working practices and the underpinning and applied knowledge, skills and behaviours.



Apprenticeship Certification

Certificates are issued by the Apprenticeship Assessment Service and sent directly to the Apprentice's Employer.



How Lantra can help

- We are specialists in environmental and land-based industries
- We offer good value and cost-effective EPA
- Our IEPAs meet and exceed the requirements of the End Point Assessment Plan
- We offer our service across the whole of England
- We use ACE360 - an apprenticeship standards management system - to manage EPA
- We are experts in the delivery of Apprenticeship Frameworks and National Occupational Standards
- With a 40-year history, delivering high quality, specialist support to the land-based industries is in our DNA.

For more information please contact us;

T 02476 696996

E epa@lantra.co.uk

