

apprenticeship FRAMEWORK

Project Management (Wales)

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION FOR ALL APPRENTICESHIP STARTS FROM 14 OCTOBER 2016

Modifications to SASW came into effect on 14 October 2016. These changes relate to the **Essential Skills and Employer Rights and Responsibilities** requirements of a framework and they **ONLY** apply to new Apprenticeship starts on, or after, 14th October. Apprenticeship starts before this date must continue to meet the 2013 SASW requirements for Essential Skills and Employer Rights and Responsibilities.

For more details of the changes and how they will affect new apprenticeship starts, please read the following preface page to the framework document. NB: Please check the "Revising a Framework" section for information on any additional changes that may have been made to this framework.

Latest framework version?

For any previous versions of this framework: www.acwcerts.co.uk/framework_library

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Wales

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Project Management (Wales)

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Framework information

Information on the Issuing Authority for this framework:

Instructus

The Apprenticeship sector for occupations in air conditioning, building services engineering, business and administration, cleaning, customer service, digital/information technology, electro technical, electrical and electronic servicing, enterprise and business support, facilities management, heating and ventilating, housing, human resources and recruitment, industrial relations, leadership and management, marketing and sales (also includes contact centres and third sector), plumbing, property and refrigeration.

Issue number: 6	This framework includes:
Framework ID: FR04153	Level 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Level 4-7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date this framework is to be reviewed by: 29/09/2023	This framework is for use in: Wales

Short description

To provide employers of all sizes, and across all sectors, in Wales with a high-quality, nationally-recognised programme which will attract new talent into project management positions and up-skill the existing workforce to make projects and businesses more productive, efficient and profitable.

The apprenticeship is suitable for various project management roles, including Project Manager, Project Co-ordinator, Project Executive and Project Support Officer.

Contact information

Proposer of this framework

Project Management skills have a major impact on the development, productivity and performance of organisations of all sizes and across all sectors of the economy. To provide employers of all sizes, and across all sectors, in Wales with a high-quality, nationally-recognised programme which will attract new talent into project management positions and up-skill the existing workforce to make projects and businesses more productive, efficient and profitable.

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Contact Details

Who is making this revision | i

Your organisation | Instructus Skills

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Revising a framework

Why this framework is being revised

| This framework is being reviewed by Instructus Skills to ensure qualifications are valid, as some qualifications may have expired.

Summary of changes made to this framework

| This framework is being reviewed by Instructus Skills to ensure qualifications are valid, as some qualifications may have expired.

Qualifications removed

August 2023

| EAL Diploma in Project Management 600/6034/7

Qualifications added

August 2023

| EAL L4 Diploma in Project Management (Competence) 603/7810/4

Qualifications that have been extended

| N/A

Purpose of this framework

Summary of the purpose of the framework

Projects deliver beneficial change in a world increasing in pace and complexity. With scarce resources and infinite opportunity, society demands greater effectiveness, competency, accountability and, increasingly, a zero tolerance of project failure.

With the right capability in initiation, sponsorship, governance and delivery, all projects can succeed in benefitting those whose lives they touch. A formal project management career structure will contribute greatly to achieving far greater project success.

The Higher Apprenticeship in Project Management has been designed to provide greater access to the provision of competent project professionals to the employment market. There remains huge scope for the development of education in the project management sector, which will be accelerated through the introduction of a Higher Apprenticeship in the discipline.

The existing marketplace for knowledge-based project management qualifications and training courses is highly developed. Whilst valuable in their own right, the knowledge gained through these qualifications is only part of what is required to manage projects effectively.

The Higher Apprenticeship in Project Management provides an alternative to such courses and will help increase project success rates by:

- providing structure
- developing greater competence earlier in people's careers.

The Higher Apprenticeship in Project Management provides progression routes for those wishing to enter the project management profession or further their career in other disciplines using project management skills.

As such, it provides a clear opportunity to increase competency and fill identified skills gaps. Skills gaps identified in the profession include stakeholder management skills, dealing with complexity, communication skills and technical competences such as project scheduling, risk management, earned value, planning and estimating.

Although it is difficult to accurately estimate the size of the project management workforce due to variations in how project management is classified across different industries, it is estimated that in 2011 there were 80,000 project professionals in the UK (Source: Arras People Project Management Benchmark report, 2011, accurate as at February 2018).

Project management is growing as a career of first choice. Traditionally, a significant number of people move into managing projects after several years' work in different sectors and

functions.

The perception that project management is a mid-career choice means that access to talented and competent young project professionals remains limited. Many control functions within major projects can provide opportunities for younger professionals that can be developed into more senior project roles over time. The availability of Higher Apprenticeships will formally recognise the value of this, laying firm foundations for the next generation of competent project management professionals.

Aims and objectives of this framework (Wales)

The objectives of this framework are to:

- build a competent project management workforce, providing organisations of all sizes across all sectors with the staff needed to increase productivity and efficiency
- tap into the skills and talents of a diverse population by providing flexible entry routes into a career in project management
- equip individuals with the skills, knowledge and experience needed to undertake project management roles in a range of business settings
- provide apprentices with an opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and experience they will need to progress to higher level roles with additional responsibilities and onto further and higher education, if they wish to do so.

Entry conditions for this framework

There are no mandatory entry requirements for this Higher Apprenticeship framework. However employers are looking to attract apprentices who have a strong interest in, or practical experience of, a career in project management. In addition, they expect applicants to demonstrate a "can do" attitude and have good numeracy, literacy and communication skills on which the Apprenticeship will build.

Entrants will come from a diverse range of backgrounds and will have a range of experience, age, personal achievements and, in some cases, prior qualifications and awards which may count towards achievement of an Apprenticeship. Examples may include learners who have:

- held a position of responsibility at school or college
- achieved Regulatory Qualification Awards, Certificates or Diplomas
- achieved GCSEs or A levels
- achieved a Welsh Baccalaureate, including any of the Principal Learning Qualifications at foundation and higher level
- completed Level 3 Apprenticeships from a wide range of sectors including Construction, Engineering, IT, Telecoms, and Retail
- holders of existing project management qualification such as APMP, PMP and PRINCE2®

RULES TO AVOID REPEATING QUALIFICATIONS

Processes exist to make sure that applicants with prior knowledge, qualifications and experience are not disadvantaged by having to repeat learning. Training providers and awarding organisations will be able to advise on the current rules for accrediting prior learning and recognising prior experience.

Key Skills Qualifications

Key skills are viewed as acceptable alternatives to Essential Skills Wales if they have already been achieved at the same level(s) as those specified for Essential Skills Wales.

Prior experience

Applicants already working in the sector may be able to have their prior experience recognised by the Awarding Organisation and this will count towards the competence and the knowledge qualifications in this framework.

Initial Assessment

An initial assessment must be used to ensure that applicants have a fair opportunity to demonstrate their ability. Learning programmes can then be tailored to meet a range of

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abilities and to recognise prior knowledge and experience.

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Level 4

Title for this framework at level 4

Higher Apprenticeship in Project Management

Pathways for the framework at level 4:

Pathway 1: Project Management

Level 4, Pathway 1: Project Management

Description of this pathway

Project Management - Minimum of 138 Credits:

120 credits for the combined competence and knowledge qualification, made up of:

- a minimum of 30 credits of knowledge
- a minimum of 90 credits of competence

18 credits for the Transferrable Skills in Communication, Application of Numbers and IT.

Entry requirements for this pathway in addition to the framework entry requirements

There are no entry requirements for this pathway in addition to the general framework entry requirements.

Job title(s)	Job role(s)
Project Manager	A Project Manager oversees project development from planning to completion, performing various tasks, including: defining project scope and timescales, budget management, managing resources, quality assurance, risk management, engaging stakeholders, managing project change and analysis of results.
Project Co-ordinator / Project Executive / Project Support Officer	A Project Co-ordinator, Executive or Support Officer supports project development and delivery, through such tasks as: quality assurance, fulfilling organisational and project aims, project coordination, assessing and controlling risks, accurate reporting, managing budgets and research and analysis.

Qualifications

Competence qualifications available to this pathway

N/A

Knowledge qualifications available to this pathway

N/A

Combined qualifications available to this pathway

B1 – Level 4 Diploma in Project Management (QCF)					
No.	Ref no.	Awarding organisation	Credit value	Guided learning hours	UCAS points value
B1b	601/8407/3	Agored Cymru	120	605	N/A
B1c	C00/4460/3	Excellence, Achievement & Learning Limited	164	1640	

Relationship between competence and knowledge qualifications

B1b and B1c provide both the underpinning knowledge and the competency elements within this pathway.

Both combined qualifications include competence and knowledge units. A minimum of 30 credits of knowledge and a minimum of 90 credits of competence will be achieved from undertaking the mandatory and optional units within the combined qualification. The split between knowledge and competence units is shown below:

EAL Level 4 Diploma in Project Management:

Mandatory Units:

- PMC4-001 Developing personal and professional practice through project delivery D/618/8281
- PMC4-002 Project initiation H/618/8282
- PMC4-003 Project planning and scheduling K/618/8283
- PMC4-004 Project monitoring and reporting M/618/8284
- PMC4-005 Contract and quality management T/618/8285
- PMC4-006 Managing teams and stakeholders A/618/8286
- PMC4-007 Managing budgets and risk F/618/8287
- PMC4-008 Understanding your organisation and its approaches to project management J/618/8288

Agored Cymru Level 4 Diploma in Project Management:

Mandatory units:

T/508/0898 - Principles of project management (knowledge unit, 30 credits)

A/508/0899 - Project stakeholder management (competence unit, 10 credits)

H/508/0900 - Project communications (competence unit, 10 credits)

Optional Units (all competence units; minimum of 70 credits):

K/508/0901 - Business case, project structure and progress monitoring (competence unit, 10 credits)

M/508/0902 - Managing project scope (competence unit, 10 credits)

T/508/0903 - Managing project schedule (competence unit, 10 credits)

A/508/0904 - Managing project finances (competence unit, 10 credits)

F/508/0905 - Managing project risk (competence unit, 10 credits)

J/508/0906 - Managing project quality (competence unit, 10 credits)

L/508/0907 - Managing project resources (competence unit, 10 credits)

R/508/0908 - Managing project contracts (competence unit, 10 credits)

J/508/0968 - Provide leadership and direction for own area of responsibility (competence unit, 5 credits)

L/508/0969 - Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility (competence unit, 5 credits)

Essential Skills

An apprenticeship framework must specify as a Welsh certificate requirement the expected achievement levels of Essential Skills in Communication and the Application of Number.

Where Essential Skills qualifications are specified in an apprenticeship framework, the apprenticeship framework must specify the acceptance of a recognised proxy qualification for Communication and Application of Number.

Communication

For the current list of acceptable proxy qualifications and appropriate **minimum** grade/level requirements, please refer to the most recent version of [SASW](#) on the [gov.wales](#) website. Additional guidance materials can be found on the [Knowledge Base](#) section of the [ACW](#) website.

Does this framework require Communication achievement above the minimum SASW requirement? **YES** **NO**

If YES, please state the grade/level required for English and give a brief **REASON** as to why this is required:

[Enter alternative grade/level requirements and reasons here.]

Application of Number

For the current list of acceptable proxy qualifications and appropriate **minimum** grade/level requirements, please refer to the most recent version of [SASW](#) on the [gov.wales](#) website. Additional guidance materials can be found on the [Knowledge Base](#) section of the [ACW](#) website.

Does this framework require Application of Number achievement above the minimum SASW requirement? **YES** **NO**

If YES, please state the grade/level required for Maths and give a brief **REASON** as to why this is required:

Enter alternative grade/level requirements and reasons here.

Inclusion of Digital Literacy (ICT)

Digital Literacy (ICT) is an **optional** framework requirement.

Is Digital Literacy a requirement in this framework? **YES** **NO**

Digital Literacy (ICT)

Please note that there are currently no acceptable proxy qualifications for Digital Literacy (ICT).

For the current **minimum** grade/level requirements, please refer to the most recent version of [SASW](#) on the [gov.wales](#) website. Additional guidance materials can be found on the [Knowledge Base](#) section of the [ACW](#) website.

Does this framework require Digital Literacy (ICT) achievement above the minimum SASW requirement? **YES** **NO**

If YES, please state the grade/level required for **Digital Literacy (ICT)** and give a brief **REASON** as to why this is required:

Enter alternative grade/level requirements and reasons here.

Progression routes into and from this pathway

Progression into the Project Management Higher Apprenticeship

Progression into this Higher Apprenticeship may be from a wide number of routes due to the varying backgrounds and past academic and work related experiences of apprentices. Such routes might include having:

- achieved a Level 3 Apprenticeship in a range of sectors including Construction, Engineering, IT, Telecoms, and Retail.
- achieved Regulatory Qualification Awards, Certificates or Diplomas in a sector specific or business-related area
- achieve GCSEs or A Levels
- achieved a Welsh Bacculaureate, including any of the Principal Learning Qualifications at foundation and higher level
- achieved a project management qualification such as APMP, PMP and PRINCE2©

Learners may also progress into the Higher Apprenticeship without prior qualifications.

Progression from the Project Management Higher Apprenticeship

Higher apprentices, with support and opportunities in the workplace, can progress onto:

- a range of Project Management and other qualifications, including those at level 5 and above, and those accredited internationally
- higher education to undertake Project Management or other qualifications, including Degrees or Masters in Project Management

- Further employment opportunities within their current job role/alternative job roles
- Associate membership of professional bodies, including the Association for Project Management (APM)

With additional training, higher apprentices may be able to progress in their careers into more senior Project Management roles.

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UCAS points for this pathway:

|N/A|

Employee rights and responsibilities

Please note that for Apprenticeship starts from 14/10/2016 onwards ERR is no longer a **mandatory** requirement in all frameworks.

However, it may still be included in some frameworks and where it is not explicitly stated that ERR is not a requirement then confirmation of an Apprentice's ERR achievement will still remain a requirement for Apprenticeship certification purposes.

Is ERR a requirement for this framework? **YES** **NO**

Delivery and assessment

[Framework Developer to complete with relevant info]

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The remaining sections apply to all levels and pathways within this framework.

How equality and diversity will be met

Equality and diversity

According to the Office for National Statistics, approximately 30% of the UK's Project Management professionals are female and 70% are male.

25% of project managers are aged 18-34, 9% are aged between 35 and 49 years old, 26% are aged 50 or above (Source: Arras People Project Management Benchmark report, 2012).

No current data is available to indicate an imbalance (or otherwise) of employees from minority backgrounds or with disabilities.

Apprenticeships are seen as a vital route to encourage and facilitate a diverse set of individuals entering into Project Management. Entry conditions to this framework do not discriminate against any individuals, with the framework being open and accessible to all potential apprentices.

Mentoring is also promoted within the Apprenticeship to provide additional support and increase the chances of apprentices staying. Training providers and employers must also comply with the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that applicants are not discriminated against in terms of entry to and promotion within, the Industry, using the protected characteristics of:

- age
- disability
- gender
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or Belief
- sexual orientation.

Although it is difficult to accurately estimate the size of the project management workforce due to variations in how project management is classified across different industries, it is estimated that in 2011 there were 80,000 project managers in the UK (Source: Arras People Project Management Benchmark report, 2011).

It is anticipated that the demographic of Project Management Apprentices will bear similarity to Management Apprentices, given the similarities in the target audiences and the pansector nature of both Apprenticeships. Recent statistics produced by the Institute for Employment

Studies shows that Management Apprenticeship starts in England are dominated by women (63.3% of all starts).

The number of apprentices from ethnic minority backgrounds is 9.8%, which is roughly in line with the population as a whole, although there is over-representation of learners from Asian backgrounds (4.3% of starts) and a slight under-representation of learners from Chinese of mixed ethnic backgrounds (1.2% of starts). 10.3% of Management apprentice starts are recorded as having a disability (above national representative numbers), whilst 3.4% of apprentices record having a learning difficulty, which shows some under-representation when compared to the population as a whole.

Instructus Skills continues to monitor take up and achievement of all Apprenticeships through its Advisory Groups and continues to take steps to address any barriers to take up and achievement as part of its Qualification Strategy (February 2018).

On and off the job training

Summary of on- and off-the-job training

Training time for the Project Management Higher Apprenticeship programme is split into on the job training hours and off the job training hours, as described below.

The minimum training hours for the Project Management Higher Apprenticeship is 853 hours. It is expected that the Apprenticeship will last a minimum of 24 months, but a flexible approach to learning is encouraged for learners who have prior learning or experience.

Regardless of how long the Higher Apprenticeship takes, the minimum 853 hours of Guided Learning must be met.

On and off the job training must either have been received:

- (a) Whilst working under an apprenticeship agreement; OR
- (b) In the 5 years preceding the date of application for an apprenticeship certificate (the qualifying period)

Off the job training undertaken before the apprentice starts the apprenticeship may count towards the off the job training required if it is undertaken in relation to the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management

Off-the-job training

The total off-the-job training hours for the Project Management Higher Apprenticeship is 264 hours, made up as follows:

- 60 hours for Essential Skills Wales (20 hours per Skill)
- 160 hours (minimum) to cover the knowledge content within the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management
- 20 hours for activities including initial assessments, inductions and ERR
- 24 hours of off-the-job coaching and mentoring to support the apprentice

How this requirement will be met

Off-the-job training hours refers to the time taken to develop the technical skills and to develop knowledge of theoretical concepts across a range of contexts. It can be seen as time away from "the immediate pressures of the job", and may include all of the following (non-exclusive) activities:

- individual and group teaching
- coaching
- distance learning
- e-learning feedback and assessment
- guided study
- learning with peers/networked or collaborative learning
- mentoring.

Off-the-job training hours must:

- achieve clear and specific outcomes which contribute directly to the successful achievement of the framework and this may include accredited and non-accredited elements of the framework
- be planned, reviewed and evaluated jointly between the apprentice and a tutor, teacher, mentor or manager
- allow access as and when required by the apprentice either to a tutor, teacher, mentor or manager
- be delivered during contracted working hours.

Evidence of off-the-job training hours will include:

- a completion certificate for the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management
- a completion certificate for the Essential Skills Wales

The training hours attached to the Essential Skills Wales and the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management are split between off-the-job and on-the-job learning hours. The expectation is that Apprentices will undertake some learning off-the-job to achieve the underpinning knowledge attached to each qualification, supported by on-the-job learning to embed this knowledge and practice its application whilst learning on-the-job.]

On-the-job training

[The total on-the-job training for the Project Management Higher Apprenticeship is 589 hours, made up as follows:

- 120 hours for Essential Skills Wales (40 hours per Skill)
- 405 hours (minimum) to cover the competence content within the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management
- 40 hours (minimum) to cover the knowledge content within the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management

- 24 hours of on-the-job coaching and mentoring to support the apprentice

How this requirement will be met

On-the-job training hours must:

- achieve clear and specific outcomes which contribute directly to the successful achievement of the framework and this may include accredited and non-accredited elements of the framework
- be planned, reviewed and evaluated jointly between the apprentice and a tutor, teacher, mentor or manager
- allow access as and when required by the apprentice either to a tutor, teacher, mentor or manager
- be delivered during contracted working hours.

Evidence of on-the-job Guided Learning Hours will include:

- a completion certificate for the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management
- a completion certificate for the Essential Skills Wales

The training hours attached to the Essential Skills Wales and the Level 4 Diploma in Project Management are split between off-the-job and on-the-job learning hours. The expectation is that Apprentices will undertake some learning off-the-job to achieve the underpinning knowledge attached to each qualification, supported by on-the-job learning to embed this knowledge and practice its application whilst learning on-the-job.

Wider key skills assessment and recognition

While Wider Key Skills are not a **mandatory** part of the framework, training providers are encouraged to provide apprentices the opportunity to achieve them.

For this framework, there are natural opportunities for Wider Key Skills to be embedded within the mandatory units of the following qualifications:

[Enter Qualification Names]

Improving own learning and performance

[Give examples - signpost to specific units in framework qualifications that would meet these requirements]

Working with others

[Give examples - signpost to specific units in framework qualifications that would meet these requirements]

Problem solving

[Give examples - signpost to specific units in framework qualifications that would meet these requirements]

apprenticeship **FRAMEWORK**

For more information visit-
www.acwcerts.co.uk/framework_library