# CITY & GUILDS NPTC LEVEL 2 AWARD IN SUPPORTING COLLEAGUES UNDERTAKING OFF-GROUND TREE RELATED OPERATIONS



QAN 600/6435/3

## **QUALIFICATION GUIDANCE**

# **Integrated Assessment**

### **Essential Qualification Information**

# Not to be used by the Candidate during Assessment

You will require some of this information to accurately complete the Record of Assessment (ROA)

Qualification Group No	0 0 2 0	Forestry & Arboriculture Level 2
Qualification Programme No	0 0 2 0 - 0 8	Award In Supporting Colleagues Undertaking Off-Ground Tree Related Operations
Unit(s)	2 0 7	Support colleagues undertaking off ground tree related operations
Guided Learning Hours	2 0 7	GLH 23 (Credit Value 3)
Total Qualification Time		30 Hours
Recommended Assessment Duration		2.0 – 2.5 hours per Candidate
Pre-Requisite Units	2 0 1	Carry out maintenance of chainsaw and cutting system Cross-cut timber using a chainsaw

# City and Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Supporting Colleagues Undertaking Off-Ground Tree Related Operations

#### Qualification Guidance

#### Introduction

The scheme will be administered by City & Guilds

City & Guilds will:

Publish - Scl

- Scheme regulations
- Qualification guidance
- Training materials
- Trainers support materials

Approve centres to co-ordinate and administer the scheme Set standards for the training of Verifiers and Assessors Recruit, train and deploy Verifiers Issue certificates to successful Candidates

#### The Qualification

The qualification will be awarded to Candidates who achieve the required level of competence in the units to which their certificate relates.

#### Instruction

Attendance at a course of instruction is not a pre-requisite for an application for an assessment but potential Candidates are strongly advised to ensure that they are up to the standards that will be expected of them when they are assessed.

#### **Total Qualification Time**

Total Qualification Time (TQT) is the total amount of time, in hours, expected to be spent by a Learner to achieve a qualification. It includes both guided learning hours (which are listed separately) and hours spent in preparation, study and assessment.

#### Access to Assessment

Assessment centres will be responsible for arranging assessment on behalf of the Candidate.

The minimum age limit for Candidates taking Certificates of Competence is 16 years. There is no upper age limit.

The assessment is one mandatory unit:

Unit 207 Support Colleagues Undertaking Off-Ground Tree Related Operations

Outcomes:

- 1. Be able to work safely (1) (Criteria 1.1 1.5)
- 2. Be able to support colleagues undertaking off ground tree related operations (2) (Criteria 2.1 2.6)
- 3. Know relevant health and safety legislation and industry good practice (3) (Criteria 3.1 3.4)
- 4. Know how to support colleagues undertaking off ground tree related operations (4) (Criteria 4.1 4.6)

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in the above unit.

#### **Quality Assurance**

Verification is a process of monitoring assessment; it is an essential check to confirm that the assessment procedures are being carried out in the way City & Guilds has laid down. The overall aim of verification is to establish a system of quality assurance that is acceptable in terms of both credibility and cost effectiveness.

Approved Assessors will be subject to a regular visit by the verifier at a time when assessments are being undertaken.

A selection of assessment reports completed by the Assessor will be evaluated by a City & Guilds approved verifier.

Compliance with the verification requirements is a pre-requisite for Assessors remaining on the list of approved Assessors.

After assessment has been completed the Qualification Guidance is to be forwarded to the centre and retained by the centre until after the annual centre visit has taken place by a Quality Systems Consultant (QSC).

#### Performance Evaluation

The result of each assessment activity is evaluated against the following criteria:

- Meets or exceeds the assessment criteria by displaying a level of practical performance and/or underpinning knowledge. M = If the Criterion has been MET, a tick  $\boxtimes$  is to be put in the box provided in the left-hand column.
- NM = Not Met Does not satisfy the requirements of the assessment criteria, being unable to perform the practical task satisfactorily or safely or being deficient in underpinning knowledge.

If the Criterion is NOT MET, a cross ⊠ is to be put in the box provided in the left-hand column.

#### Appeals and Equal Opportunities

Centres must have their own auditable, appeals procedures. If a Candidate is not satisfied with the examination conditions or a Candidate feels the opportunity for examination is being denied, the Centre Manager should, in the first instance, address the problem. If, however the problem cannot be resolved, City & Guilds will arbitrate and an external verifier may be approached to offer independent advice. All appeals must be clearly documented by the Centre Manager and made available to the external verifier or City & Guilds if advice is required.

Should occasions arise when centres are not satisfied with any aspect of the external verification process, they should contact Verification Services at City & Guilds.

Access to the qualification is open to all, irrespective of gender, race, creed, age or special needs. The Centre Manager should ensure that no learner is subjected to unfair discrimination on any grounds in relation to access to assessment and to the fairness of the assessment. QCA requires City & Guilds to monitor centres to check whether equal opportunities policies are being adhered to.

#### Additional Information

May be sought from the relevant manufacturer's operator manuals or any other appropriate training or safety publication.

Questions should be related to the background or employment aspirations of the candidate and, where possible, product labels used should be representative of products typically used in that sector or industry.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

#### Assessment Guidance for the Trainer/Assessor

This qualification can be assessed by a Trainer who has trained the Candidate (a Trainer/Assessor) or by a third party (an Assessor) not directly involved with training of the Candidate providing they are suitably qualified and meet the requirements of the awarding body. Please see City & Guilds Centre Manual for guidance.

It is envisaged that assessment will be carried out after all of the training has been completed. However assessment may take place at intervals after each 'period' of training and may be effectively integrated into the training programme. The Candidate must be informed when assessment is taking place in terms of when formal assessment commences and when its ceases. It is not permissible to assess whilst training is being carried out. Assessment must be a separate activity.

Trainer/Assessors are reminded that assessment is a formal process. Assessment must be carried out using the Qualification Guidance. All relevant assessment criteria must be assessed against the criteria as specified in the Qualification Guidance. Assessment will be carried out by direct observation and by oral questioning of the Candidate. Where a specific number of responses are required these may include other suitable answers not specified if they are deemed to be correct by the Assessor. The performance of the Candidate is to be recorded on the Qualification Guidance as directed by completing the tick boxes. Space has been provided on the Qualification Guidance for the person assessing to record relevant information which can be utilised to provide feedback to the Candidate. Trainer/Assessors are reminded that feedback from the Candidate is required on the Record of Assessment that is sent to City & Guilds as part of the quality assurance process. After assessment has been completed the assessment schedule is to be forwarded to the centre and retained by the centre until after the annual centre visit has taken place by a Quality Systems Consultant (QSC).

Re-assessment cannot take place until further training has been provided. The Candidate may only have a maximum of 3 attempts.

#### Assessment Guidance for Candidate

A list of registered assessment centres is available from City & Guilds Land Based Services. (www.nptc.org.uk)

Assessment is a process by which it is confirmed that the candidate is competent in the unit(s) within the award to which the assessment relates. It is the process of collecting evidence about his/her capabilities and judging whether that evidence is sufficient to attribute competence.

The Candidate must be registered through the City & Guilds approved assessment centre for this qualification prior to the assessment.

The results of the assessment will be recorded on the Record of Assessment form (ROA).

The qualification guidance contains criteria relating to:

- Observation of practical performance
- Assessment of underpinning knowledge

#### **Chainsaw Safe Practice**

At all times during the assessment, equipment must be used in accordance with industry good practice, whatever the task being carried out.

- 1. Assessors must hold a current 'First Aid at Work' Certificate.
- 2. All chainsaws used in assessments must comply with relevant Arboriculture and Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG) guidance and HSE Chainsaws at Work INDG317(rev1), in terms of safety features, and be a model and size suited to the task(s) required.
- 4. Recommended guide bar lengths should be observed, although variations may be accepted at the discretion of the assessor where this is appropriate to the task.
- 5. Candidates should be familiar with the machinery, equipment and tools that they are going to use.
- During chainsaw based assessments a spare working chainsaw must be available.
- 7. Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn at all times by both the candidate and the assessor. All PPE used must comply with relevant AFAG guidance, industry good practice, Health and Safety Executive publications and current legal requirements in terms of specification and use.
- 8. A First Aid kit meeting current regulations, of the appropriate size for the number of persons on site, must be available, along with appropriate fire fighting and suitable welfare facilities e.g. hand cleansing wipes.
- 9. The use of personal first aid kits must be line with current industry good practice.
- 10. The assessor must ensure a site specific risk assessment has been carried out, sufficient control measures implemented and appropriate emergency procedures recorded. All recorded risk assessment information should be clearly legible and accessible to candidates and completed for all locations where assessment activities are scheduled to take place.
- 11. Manual handling techniques must comply with current legislation and industry good practice.
- 12. Any necessary permission must have been granted, and notifications made as appropriate.
- 13. All equipment being used for this assessment must comply with relevant legislative requirements.
- 14. Information may be sought from the relevant operator manuals or any other appropriate training or safety publication.
- 15. The current regulations for transport, handling and storage of fuel and oils must be complied with.
- 16. Provision must be made to avoid the risk of environmental pollution.
- 17. It is the responsibility of the assessor and the candidate to ensure that any additional requirements and provisions are met as relevant to this qualification.
- At all times during the assessment, candidates must act in a way so as not to endanger themselves, the assessor or any other person or equipment. Work must be carried out to achieve the requirements of the assessment criteria in accordance with all relevant and current legislation and good practice guidance.
- 19. If required, relevant records must be accurately kept.
- 20. Appropriate steps should be taken to maintain effective teamwork in respect of other persons on site during the assessment.
- 21. Any appropriate item of machinery complying with current legal requirements is acceptable for the assessment, provided it is suitably equipped for **all** assessment activities to be carried out.
- 22. All equipment being used for this assessment must comply with the relevant requirements of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998.
- 23. A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

This may include taking steps to ensure effective communication and safety precautions.

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Candidate	A Name:		Date:	Start Time:	Dura	ation	1:		
Candidate	B Name:	Date:		Start Time:	Duration:				
Candidate C Name:			Date:	Start Time:	Dura	ation	1:		
Candidate D Name:			Date:	Start Time:	Dura	ation	1:		
CRITERIA NUMBER	CRITERIA GUIDANCE Identify the hazards and Three hazards and risks			ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES			AND B	IDA1	TE D
1.1 1	Identify the hazards and risks associated with the working area and the proposed work	Three hazards and risks w the working area  Three hazards and risks w the proposed work	harm) and risks (wh	oything with the potential to ca to might be harmed and how) done Met✓ Not	),				
3.4	Outline the emergency procedures relevant to the working area	State five	location name     grid reference     designated me     site location na     nearest access     street name/di     type of access	eeting place ame s point					
			<ul><li>phone number</li><li>location of nea hospital and pl</li><li>works manage</li></ul>	pter landing area of nearest doctor arest accident and emergency none number or contact details act number/mobile number	′				
				Met ✓ Not	— Met X				
3.1 <b>3</b>	Outline the key health and safety legislation, industry good practice and any additional requirements	Two key points from each:  Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA)	good practice listed  Health and Safety a	rom the legislation and indust below: it Work Act (HSWA): for employers and employee	try				
		Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 19 (PUWER0		• •	ns				
		One purpose of Arboricultu and Forestry Advisory Grou (AFAG) Guides	up information:	try Advisory Group (AFAG) dustrial good practice					
Continued		Three key points from Wor at Height Regulations 2005	regulations relating	ents of the Work at Height to arboricultural operations in the properly planned and with work at height are composed at height are assessed ork equipment is selected and work at height is properly ins	petent and d used				

CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	C.	AND B	IDA1	TE D
Cont		Four key points from Lifting Operations and Lifting	The main requirements of the LOLER regulations include:				
		Equipment Regulations 1998	lifting operations are managed				
3.1		(LOLER)	equipment subjected to thorough examination				
3			items for PPE or rigging are clearly distinguishable				
			equipment is fit for purpose				
			<ul> <li>systems are correctly designed</li> <li>other</li> </ul>				
	Explain how to monitor and	Two examples of each	Met ✓ Not Met X  Ways to monitor and control sites may include:	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
4.1	control sites to ensure safe working	TWO SXAMPISO OF GASH	all operators fully involved in the risk assessment				
4	Working		process     clear methods of communication established				
-			hierarchy of staff roles on site				
			regular workplace auditing     other				
			- Outer				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
4.2	State why aerial operators require support	Three reasons	Aerial support may include:  maintain a safe work environment				
			provide necessary tools and equipment as				
4			required  allow for effective use of time and resources				
			conform to good practice e.g. aerial rescue				
			• other				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Explain why it is important	Two reasons	The importance of informing the climber promptly of				
4.6	to inform the climber promptly and clearly of any		changes may include:  to help prevent injury				
4	changes in the hazards and risks of the site		to help prevent damage to persons or property				
			<ul><li>may effect the sequence of work</li><li>other</li></ul>				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
3.2	Describe how to use and maintain tools, equipment	Describe <b>two</b>	Maintenance of tools and equipment and PPE may include:				
	and personal protective equipment	Equipment not to include the candidates chainsaw or	• cleaning				
3		maintenance tools	<ul><li>inspection</li><li>other</li></ul>				
			Uses of equipment may include:				
			lifting     rolling				
			protect the operator				
			• other				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
4.3	Describe how to ensure that access equipment and	State <b>five</b> items of access equipment	Commonly used access equipment may include:				
7.5	systems are in safe working order		MEWP     ladders				
4	working order		• spikes				
			cranes     tree climbing equipment				
Continued			• other				
Continued							

CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSOR	ASSESSMENT	С	AND	IDA <sup>-</sup>	TE
NUMBER	CRITERIA	GUIDANCE	ACTIVITIES	Α	В	С	D
Cont		State three ways	How to ensure equipment and systems are in safe working order may include:				
4.3			maintain in accordance with manufacturers recommendations				
			operator checks completed				
4			statutory examinations completed				
			ongoing work place inspections				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
1.3	Work in a way which maintains health and	Assessor to observe	all activities must be completed in a way which protects the operator and those around him or her				
1	safety and is consistent with relevant legislation		. Met ✓ Not Met X				
•	and industry good practice					<u> </u>	<u> </u>
1.4	Carry out work to minimise environmental damage	Assessor to observe	It is ensured that any possible environmental damage is minimised at all times during tree related operations				
1			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Use appropriate tools,	Assessor to observe and risk	All tools, equipment and Personal Protective			1	+
1.2	equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE)	assess	Equipment is used in line with industry good practice e.g. AFAG/INDG				
1	(PPE)		Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Prepare additional	Two items of equipment	Preparation of additional equipment to support aerial				
2.1	equipment to support aerial operations		operations may include:				
	operations		• fuelling				
2			starting and operational checks				
			pre-use inspection				
			• set up				
			assist in the preparation for use				
			• other				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Describe how to safely	One passing	Safely passing equipment to the climber may include:				
4.4	pass and retrieve equipment to the climber		appropriate knot/hitch tied into climbers line				
	equipment to the climber		separate tool line				
4			• other				
		One retrieving	Safely retrieving equipment from the climber may include:				
			climber sends a loop of rope from the climbing hitch system down to the ground				
			lowered on tail end of climbing line/tool line				
			other				
			- Other				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
•	Pass and retrieve	One chainsaw	Equipment is passed to the climber:				
2.2	equipment to and from the aerial operator	One rope	equipment is appropriately attached to the climb line/tool line				
2			the ground person communicates to the climber that the equipment is ready to ascend the tree		_		
			ground person leaves the drop zone				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Maintain the climbing		Climbing system is maintained by:				Ē
2.5	system		ensuring ropes are kept free of entanglement				
			additional hazards are not created				
2			Met ✓ Not Met X				
			MIGET - MOT MIGET X	Ш	Ш	ഥ	

CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSOR	ASSESSMENT		AND		
NUMBER	CRITERIA	GUIDANCE	ACTIVITIES	Α	В	С	D
2.4	Assist with the removal of aerial tree sections	One pulling	Use of equipment for pulling may include:	_		_	
2.4	donar area acciono	Candidate to set up	assessment of ground conditions				
2		appropriate pulling/lowering	appropriate use of PPE     affective communication with alimbor.				
		system	effective communication with climber				
			pull commences under the direction of the climber				
		One lowering	Use of equipment for lowering may include:				
		Candidate to set up <b>one</b> of	<ul> <li>appropriate lowering device set up e.g. capstan, bollard</li> </ul>				
		the following lowering	operated under the direction of the climber				
		devices:	appropriate use of PPE				
		□ capstan	branch material is lowered to the ground using				
		□ bollard	friction to control the speed of descent				
		□ other	the Candidate will operate the chosen friction				
		<del></del>	control method from a safe position				
			awareness of any obstacles or obstructions				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	State why it is important to	Three reasons	The importance of removing arisings from the drop				
4.5	remove arisings from the		zone may include:				
	drop zone as soon as it is safe to do so		prevent entanglement of ropes				
4	Sale to do so		prevent entanglement of arisings				
			reduce slip and trip hazards				
			allows for clear work space to be maintained				
			provides efficiency to the task				
			• other				
							L
			Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
2.3	Enter the drop zone safely and effectively	Assessor to observe	Entering the drop zone should include:	_	_	_	l
2.3	and chectivery		hazard evaluation of drop zone				
2			correct PPE worn				
			clear communication established with the climber				
			<ul> <li>only enters the drop zone when provided with an all clear</li> </ul>				
			communication maintained throughout				
			Met ✓ Not Met X		$\Box$	$\Box$	
<del>                                     </del>	Describe the correct	State <b>two</b>	Disposal of waste from workplace activities may	닏	Ш	Ш	느
3.3	methods for disposing of	State two	include:				
	waste		use of designated waste/recycle bins				
3			empty containers removed from site e.g. oil				
			litter taken home with operators				
			• other				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Clean and tidy the work	Assessor to observe	Crown sections are broken down:				
2.6	area		appropriate use of PPE and equipment				
			operation completed in safe working area				
2			safe working distances maintained				
			cutting operation in accordance with good practice				
			ensure material is stable prior to cutting				
			observe tension/compression in the material				
			material is appropriately prepared for further processing				
			Arisings should be stacked:				
1				1			
Continued			<ul> <li>branch wood and cord wood are stacked as work</li> </ul>				

CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSOR	ASSESSMENT	С	AND	IDIDATE	
NUMBER	CRITERIA	GUIDANCE	ACTIVITIES	Α	В	С	D
Cont			The area is cleaned/ restored to its original tidy condition using:				
			a rake				
2.6			a blower				
2			Ensuring:				
			<ul> <li>appropriate PPE used</li> </ul>				
			<ul> <li>tools operated in safe manner with correct man handling techniques adopted</li> </ul>	ıal 🗆			
			Met ✓ Not Met	x 🗆			
1.5	Dispose of waste safely in line with legislation	Assessor to observe	all waste produced from maintenance activities disposed of in line with legislation, good practice and leaving the requirements.	9			
			and/or site requirements				
1			Met ✓ Not Met	x 🗌			

Summary of Assessme	it (The A	Assessor is to	complete the	following as	appropriate)
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Candidate A	Candidate has met all of the assessment criteria	Tick ✓	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick ✓
	Signed:	Date:		
Candidate B	Candidate <b>has met</b> all of the assessment criteria	Tick	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick
	Signed:	Date:		
Candidate C	Candidate <b>has met</b> all of the assessment criteria	Tick	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick
	Signed:	Date:		
Candidate D	Candidate <b>has met</b> all of the assessment criteria	Tick	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick
	Signed:	Date:		
Foi (Int	use by Internal Verifier ONLY if the assessment process was idernal Verifier to complete ONE of the boxes below)	internally	y verified	
	oserved an assessment process taking place and I am satisfied th I that the judgement of the Assessor was appropriate.	nat the a	ssessment was conducted in line with the qualification requirements	Tick ✓
I ob	oserved an assessment process taking place. The following were	noted a	s areas of concern.	Tick ✓