



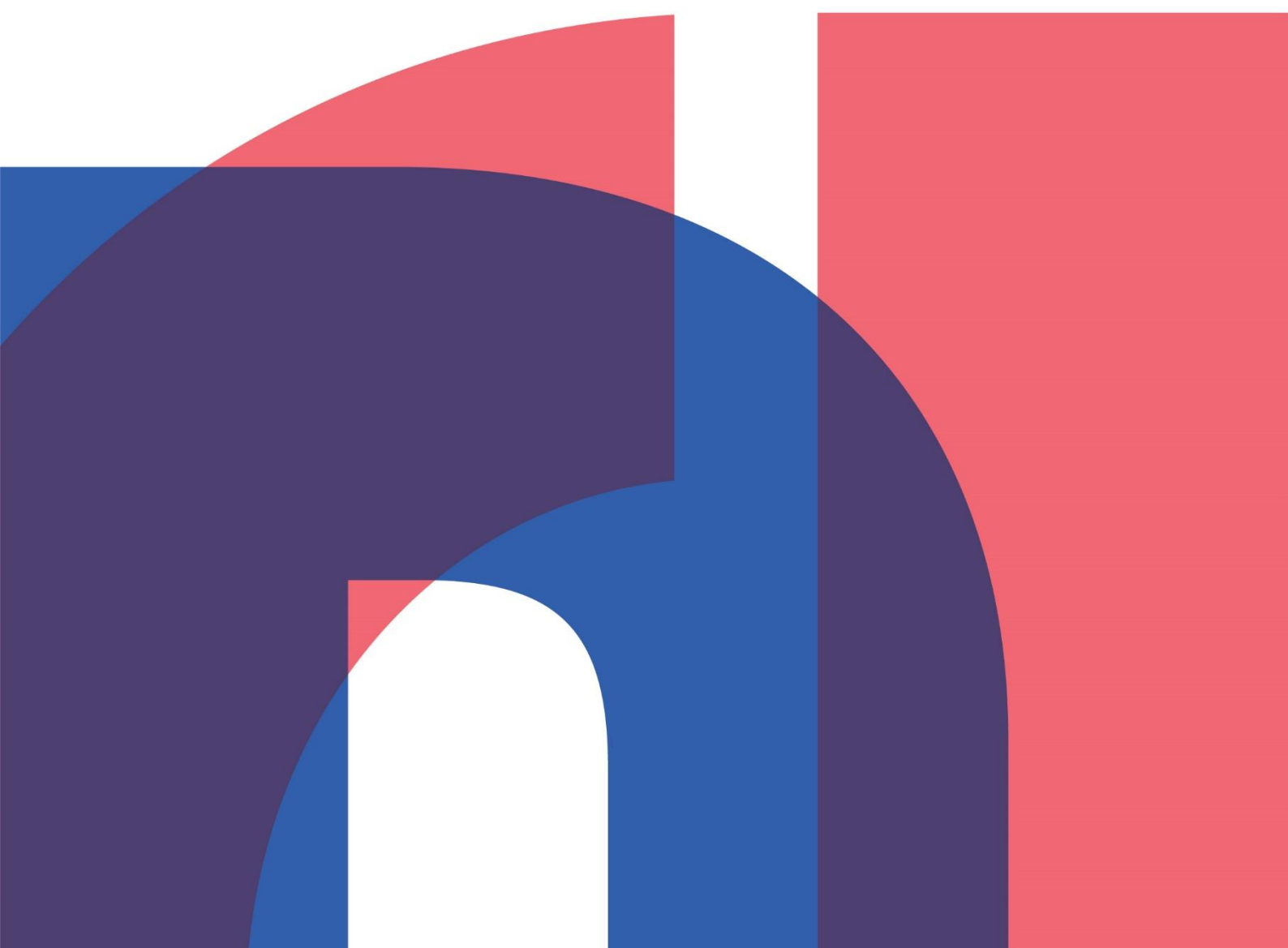
Level 4 Brewer

Reference: ST0580

End Point Assessment

Pricing Policy

2021



Key Information

1. Summary
2. Policy Statement
3. Information for apprentice applicants & employers
4. Payment and Fee Collection
5. Guidelines for fee setting
6. EPA Fee setting rationale
7. Fee setting and remission
8. Guidance for re-sits
9. Refund of fees

1. Summary

This document contains the policy and procedures relating to the costs, fees and circumstances that apply for the provision and fee setting for a Level 4 Brewer Apprenticeship Standard end point assessment (EPA)

EPA is a new way of assuring quality in the apprenticeship system. It replaces the existing model of continuous assessment resulting in qualifications. Once an apprentice has completed the on programme period of the apprenticeship, all parties involved will agree and confirm the apprentice's readiness for EPA.

On entry to the gateway the EPA will be completed within a three-month period, after the apprentice has met the standard EPA requirements.

Entry to Gateway Stage

Apprentices must meet the gateway requirements and provide evidence of doing so to FDQ before plans and dates for their EPA can be formally commenced. At gateway, the employer and training provider (if applicable) must be satisfied the apprentice is consistently working at, or above, the level set out in the occupational standard and will complete an FDQ **Gateway Declaration Form** confirming readiness for EPA and be able to provide authenticated evidence (copies of certificates) to confirm the apprentice has;

- Achieved English and mathematics at level 2.
- Brewer log book completed and signed off by employer – (logbook must contain a portfolio of evidence containing a minimum of 10 to 12 pieces of evidence – see handbook for more information)

Gateway to Result Process

FDQ will commence talks with the employer and training provider following successful upload of the entry to gateway evidence of completion. An EPA Manager will be in touch to go through the EPA requirements including logistics, dates and contractual arrangements for the delivery of the EPA

The EPA will be completed within a minimum 12-week assessment window, after the apprentice has met the EPA gateway requirements. The whole assessment process is managed by FDQ with the EPA conducted by an independent Examiner (IE) who will submit an initial result & grade based on their qualified judgements. This is submitted to FDQ and enter a moderation process where upon a final outcome is confirmed. The employer and provider will receive a Statement of Result that must be agreed by all parties and upon confirmation FDQ will request the final completion certificate from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

2. Policy Statement

The fee for a Level 4 Brewer is notified in this pricing policy and is often finally agreed at a later stage when the apprentices EPA circumstances are set and notified. FDQ will generate the invoice for the EPA once contracts have been issued **usually 7 days** prior to the appointed EPA date.

The Level 4 Brewer EPA will usually take place at the apprentice’s workplace on an appointed day and comprises the following instruments of assessment to be independently examined in the order of;

1. Practical Brewing Assessment incorporating walk-and-talk review of KSBs plus a direct observation of certain evidence lasting a minimum of 5 hours
2. Knowledge Test with minimum 30 MCQs
3. Professional discussion lasting 60 minutes

FDQ invoices carry a 30 day expected payment date from when the EPA has been carried out.

3. Information applicants & their employers

Information on fees as contained in this document will be made available to employers to enable them to negotiate and agree the fee with payment to be routed via their preferred RoAPT approved training provider.

4. Payment and Fee Collection

Fees can be paid by any of the following methods:

Choose one of methods below	
1	For FDQ centres the usual BACs based payment system applies
2	For non-FDQ centres payment can set via Bankers Automated Clearing System Limited (BACS)

5. Guidelines for fee setting

The fees shown in this document are based on an individual application for EPA. Discounts may apply where multiple EPAs are applicable for larger contracts and please discuss this with FDQ.

The Brewer Trailblazer group prescribed 3 discrete end point assessments;

EPA to be undertaken	General Instrument of assessment specification	Requirements
Assessment 1: Practical Brewing Assessment incorporating Direct Observations	<p>Apprentices must complete a synoptic practical brewing assessment that is underpinned by the apprentice’s brewer log book.</p> <p>Apprentices will under examination conduct a tour of their brewery with explaining the 6 stages of the brewing process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raw material handling • Brewhouse 	<p>The brewing assessment (examination) will consist of 3 components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • walk-and-talk • direct observation • questioning, underpinned by the apprentice’s brewer log book <p>The practical brewing assessment is expected to utilise the majority of the 5-hours +/- 30 minutes of the days EPA.. There may be gaps between the walk-and-talk, observation and questioning to allow</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fermentation and maturation • Beer finishing • Packaging • Cellar management and dispense 	the apprentice and independent assessor to move from one location to another and for breaks.
Assessment 2: Knowledge Test	Apprentices must complete a knowledge test during the EPA period. The MCQ will consist of 30 multiple-choice questions. Each multiple-choice question has 4 options in order to select one correct options.	The MCQ test is expected to take up 60 minutes to complete in a closed book environment i.e. the apprentice can't refer to reference books or materials. A calculator will be supplied by FDQ. The test will be invigilated by an FDQ approved member of staff and will be available in paper based form or online facility
Assessment 3: Interview Professional Discussion	<p>The professional discussion is underpinned by the apprentice's brewer log book. To enable the independent assessor sufficient time to plan, apprentices must submit their log book to their EPAO at least two weeks before the scheduled professional discussion where applicable questions will be derived.</p> <p>The professional discussion will be in the format of question and answer with 10 questions in total, 5 technically based and 5 competency based.</p>	<p>The professional discussion must last 1 hour +/-5minutes and will cover KSBs on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality assurance and quality control activities • Production planning and operation • Industry knowledge • Recipe design • Promotional activities

It is envisaged the Brewer EPA will be completed on the same day. Each end-point assessment is discrete but requires a different specification of assessment and tailored range of methods to mark, grade and validate the EPA.

6. EPA Fee setting rationale –

6.1 Frequently asked questions

Question	Answer
How are end point assessments costs calculated?	The Government does not dictate the fee to be charged for end point assessment. Standard apprenticeships are assigned maximum funding rate by the Funding Agency and employers decide the percentage of the overall funding value that is assigned to the occupational assessment plan.

<p>How do employers select and pay for the EPA?</p>	<p>The employer will select the EPAO (FDQ) and negotiate a price for the EPA. The price agreed should not usually exceed 20% of the funding band maximum for the standard.</p> <p>The agreed price to be charged will be based on administration and delivery of end-point assessment (eligible costs) and may also comprise an element linked to profit.</p> <p>Payment from the employer to FDQ will be routed through the provider. In order to receive payment FDQ and the provider must have a contract agreed and in place as soon as possible after notification from the employer.</p>
<p>What should the contract between FDQ and provider cover?</p>	<p>This contract must cover roles and responsibilities and a schedule for the channelling of funding through the provider to FDQ.</p> <p>The terms of the contract between the EPAO and the provider must confirm that FDQ is in charge of EPA delivery on behalf of the employer and that the provider is acting as an agent of the ESFA in passing the payment (either from the employer's apprenticeship service levy account or co-funded) to FDQ.</p>
<p>When can providers expect to receive the final is 20%?</p>	<p>For standards the final payment will be made once the end-point assessment has been completed and the prime provider has informed the ILR for the apprentice. FDQ will;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform the prime provider of the apprentices completion of the on the day it was undertaken. This enables field 21 (funding) of the ILR to be processed and notified to the ESFA. 2. Once results have been agreed, submit a 'request for final certification' to the ESFA and alert the provider of this action. This will enable the provider to complete field 28 of the ILR (SUCCESS RATES)
<p>So EPA fees are 'fixed' by Government and set at 20% of the max funding rate?</p>	<p>Not necessarily, EPAOs have a responsibility to price up the EPAs to reflect the different eligible costs such as administration, registration and examination that occur as part of the delivery of the EPA. This will ensure the delivery of a fair, valid and reliable testing experience for the apprentice. Fees therefore will vary according to the requirements of the EPA. In some cases, this will mean the cost of the EPA will be justified at 20% and in other cases it may be lower.</p>
<p>What is the max funding rate for the Brewer Standard?</p>	<p>The Government has assigned a max funding rate of £9,000 to the Brewer Apprenticeship Standard, therefore the 20% 'completion' payment would be 20% of £9000 = £1,800.</p>

7. Fee setting & remission rationale

7.1 Apprentice hosting the EPA at normal workplace

Max fee scenario	Scenario	Rate
Single applicant	The most common scenario will be a single BREWING apprentice undertaking a pre-planned and coordinated 3 X workplace observation in their own workplace. The day may also involve a quiet space to undertake the knowledge test and post observation interview.	Max £1,575 (17.5% of Funding rate)
Setting	Apprentices will be observed in their normal workplace by an independent assessor using equipment that they are familiar with and under normal working conditions. FDQ will accommodate early starting times and weekends as required.	
Eligible Costs		Normally included within List Price and an eligible cost
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs associated with the administration, registration and examination of end-point assessments as set out in the standard/s and assessment plan/s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External setting and marking of tests Registration and delivery of on-screen tests Recognition of achievement Feedback, grading and submission for certification Access to video conferencing for remote assessment 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs associated with providing guidance and support and the materials (non-capital items) used in the delivery of end-point assessment (equipment or supplies necessary to enable the assessment to take place) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All support materials and guidance provided to the employer or provider for end-point assessment preparation during on-programme learning, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment specifications Assessment logbooks Checklists Exemplars Support and training from a sector expert product managers Papers/supplies/software required for the assessment to take place (non-capital items) such as ingredients or paper tests where required. For example - Ingredients for the culinary challenge (standard appropriate) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs associated with ensuring trained staff and appropriate premises are available to deliver end-point assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-visit to the workplace to ensure suitability of premises and discuss EPA schedule/itinerary with all parties Trained Independent End-point Assessors Normally appropriate premises for assessment activity where required and not available at the apprentice's workplace 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs to support any special arrangements needed to ensure any apprentices with special educational needs, disabilities or with another temporary or permanent debilitating condition can fairly access end-point assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All reasonable adjustments requested in line with the Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations • Written paper exams
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs associated with the development and maintenance of assessment instruments and tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All assessment materials, tools and instruments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs associated with any further assessment required by the apprentice to achieve end-point assessment (for instance retakes or resits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback and area analysis available to providers to support preparation for re-sits/retakes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs associated with ensuring consistent and robust internal quality assurance (for instance moderation and standardisation of assessment instruments and tools, assessors and assessment decisions) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal quality assurance provided by EPAO End-point Assessment Managers (moderation or standardisation)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs to take account of any EQA charges you may incur and certification charges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All External Quality Assurance costs incurred and certification costs charged to the EPA by the EQA – these can be up to £40 as demanded by the Institute for Apprenticeships.

8. Guidance for re-sits/re-takes

Apprentices who fail one or more EPA components will be offered re-sits/re-takes. Re-sits/re-takes must not be offered to apprentices wishing to move from pass to distinction. A re-sit does not require further learning, whereas a re-take does.

The apprentice's employer will need to agree that a re-sit/re-take is an appropriate course of action. Apprentices should have a supportive action plan to prepare for the re-sit/re-take.

A re-sit/re-take must be taken within 12-weeks of the original fail notification; otherwise the entire EPA must be re-sat/re-taken.

The maximum grade awarded to a re-sit/re-take will be pass, unless the EPAO identifies exceptional circumstances accounting for the original fail.

EPAOs must ensure that apprentices undertake a different knowledge test, workplace observation specification and interview questions when taking a re-sit/re-take.

EPA to be undertaken	Proportion of original fee
1. Practical Brewing Assessment incorporating walk-and-talk review of KSBs plus a direct observation of certain evidence lasting up to 5 hours	50%
2. Knowledge Test with minimum 30 MCQs	25% of fee
3. Professional discussion lasting 60 minutes multiple choice test	25% of fee

*FDQ will apply discretion as required for re-sits /re-takes

9 Refund of fees

If FDQ cancels an EPA then any fees paid will be automatically refunded to the applicant organisation

If the apprentice withdraws from their EPA without providing 24 hours' notice to FDQ the fee remains payable as detailed in the ***EPA Fee Terms and Conditions (Appendix A)*** and any fees paid will not be refunded. This applies at all times and in all situations, including changes of circumstance and cases of hardship.

If the learner is not able to undertake their EPA on account of ill health then, on the production of medical evidence (e.g. a doctor's note), then a postponement may apply and the EPA could be rescheduled.

The FDQ Chief Executive must approve any refunds/credit notes before issue.

END