

# A learner's guide to electrotechnical qualifications



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Our suite of electrotechnical qualifications is a great starting point if you're interested in a career in the electrical sector. You could become an electrical installer, a maintenance electrician or perhaps a job in one of the specialist sectors, such as panel wiring is more preferable. Whatever you choose, you'll need to be properly trained and highly skilled, so getting qualified is really important.

Our awards are well-recognised by employers and the industry, so you can be sure that you'll gain a national recognised qualification that can really benefit you.

## Which qualification is right for me?

### Electrotechnical NVQs, Levels 2-3 (2356)

If you want to become a fully qualified electrician, NVQs are the right qualifications for you. NVQs assess your skills, knowledge and abilities while you're actually doing the job. There are no written examinations because you're observed and assessed on what you actually do at work.

There are four NVQs in this range:

#### NVQ in Installing Electrotechnical Systems, Level 2

#### NVQ in Electrotechnical Services, Level 3

#### NVQ in Electrical Panel Building, Level 3

#### NVQ in Electrical Machine Repair and Rewind, Level 3

The **NVQ in Electrotechnical Services at Level 3** has four separate pathways. This means that as well as providing for installation electricians there are routes for maintenance electricians, instrumentation technicians and for those working in the public lighting sector.

For all of these NVQs you will learn about the installation, maintenance and repair of relevant systems and equipment. We award these qualifications in conjunction with the Joint Industry Board for the Electrical Contracting Industry.

The **Certificate in Electrical Installation (2360)** is a college based practical course that provides you with the skills and knowledge necessary for installing wiring systems and other electrical equipment. It is available in three parts: Part 1 and 2, and Course C. Course C covers skills for people who have to plan and supervise this kind of work.

The **Certificate in the Requirements for Electrical Installation BS7671: June 2001 (2381)** is for practising electricians who need to comply with the format, content and applications of the requirements for Electrical Installations BS7671 (June 2001). It covers topics such as protection for safety, selection and erection of equipment and inspection as well as testing to meet the standards of the IEE Wiring Regulations.

The **Code of Practice for In-service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment (2377)** is for practising electricians who need to be familiar with the Institution of Electrical Engineers' Code of Practice in respect of portable appliance testing. There are two certificates, one for managers and one for those who actually carry out testing. Both are short courses although the actual time may vary depending on your training centre. At the end of the course you'll sit a multiple choice examination.

The **Inspection, Testing and Certification of Electrical Installations (2391)** certificate is suitable if you wish to meet the requirements of the National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting for inspection, testing and certification of electrical installations. You will have to complete a written examination and a practical test to achieve the certificate.

## Do the qualifications form part of a recognised framework?

Yes, all qualifications in this area have been approved by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority. That means they form part of the National Qualifications Framework for England, Northern Ireland and Wales. Separate arrangements apply for Scotland.

## Are there any other qualifications that may be of interest to me?

We also have a range of Higher Level Qualifications including The Engineering Council Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Postgraduate Diploma. Additionally, the NVQ in Business Improvement Techniques, Levels 2,3 and 4 (2257) may be suitable for team leaders, supervisors and managers in this industry.

## How can I find out more?

You can find out more by contacting your nearest City & Guilds centre. Log on to our website to find their location, or contact our Customer Relations team at:

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## Key points

- Our qualifications have been developed closely with industry and so will ensure you learn the most up to date skills and knowledge necessary.
- We have an excellent reputation for qualifications in this area and they are well recognised amongst employers.
- We provide an easy progression route for newcomers into the industry.
- City & Guilds is the UK's leading provider of vocational qualifications.