

Level 2 Arborist Apprenticeship Standard

Introduction to programme:

The arboricultural industry manages trees for their benefits and values in diverse urban and rural locations from city parks and urban woodlands, to country estates and private gardens. The industry manages trees adjacent to highways, railways, watercourses and power lines. An arborist may progress to undertake inspections and surveys of individual and woodland trees, advising landowners on how to care for their trees, or teaching others about the benefits of carefully managing trees.

The work of an arborist involves diverse activities such as chainsaw work, aerial tree work, pruning, dismantling and using appropriate machinery such as brushwood chippers.

Arborists can work for local authorities, private companies and many are also self employed. Tree work can be physically demanding and involves working outdoors in all weathers.

An arborist will undertake aerial tree work but may also be ground-based. They do a range of tree work jobs with indirect supervision. They are capable of supporting the tree work team across a range of basic technical skills.

Duration of Apprenticeship:

An apprentice commencing in an arboriculture role would typically take 24 months to complete their education and training. However, this may be reduced if an apprentice has already gained knowledge and skills working in this area.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements will be determined by individual employers but typically potential apprentices will have a minimum of 5 GCSE's at Grades A-D (including Maths and English and Science) or other equivalent vocational qualifications. Employers, who recruit apprentices without the above levels of qualifications, will have to ensure they achieve level 1 in English and maths as part of their Apprenticeship.

Delivery Location:

Delivery is workbased, with college attendance one day per fortnight, (this will count towards the 20% of the job training requirement) using blended learning technologies on the employer's premises, & occasional specialist technical workshops and seminars. An apprentice will also need to attend college courses to complete the required qualifications.

Qualifications

The following licence to practice qualifications would be required prior to end point assessment:

- Level 2 award in emergency first aid at work
- Level 2 award in safe use of brushwood chipper
- Traffic Management (NRSWA Unit 002 Signing, Lighting and Guarding) OR Sector Scheme 12D
- Level 2 award in chainsaw maintenance
- Level 2 award in crosscutting timber using a chainsaw
- Level 2 award in felling and processing trees up to 380mm
- Level 2 award in accessing a tree using a rope and harness
- Level 3 award in aerial tree rescue operations
- Level 3 award in aerial cutting of trees using free fall techniques
- Level 2 award in safe use of mobile elevated work platform
- Level 3 award in use of a chainsaw from a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP)
- Apprentices without Level 1 English and maths will need to achieve this level and take the test for Level 2 English and maths prior to taking the end-point assessment.

Required skills, knowledge and behaviours to complete this apprenticeship

Knowledge

Have an understanding of:

- The benefits of trees
- The use and application of arboricultural equipment
- The principles of the establishment, growth and care of trees
- The principles and importance of identifying trees and the value of using their scientific names
- The principles and importance of identifying and managing pests, diseases and disorders of trees
- Current environmental, wildlife and health and safety legislation, standards and codes of practice in relation to arboricultural works
- Legislation relating to trees e.g. Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas
- Procedures and specific instructions for dealing with incidents and emergencies
- Electrical safety for working in the vicinity of power lines

Skills

- Recognise health and safety needs onsite and work safely
- Take instruction from the job supervisor and other senior work colleagues to include signing onto the site specific risk assessment / emergency action plan and maintaining records
- Select appropriate equipment for the task. Load and unload equipment safely
- Set out work place signage (highway & non highway) and assists with traffic control
- Process tree work arisings using appropriate machinery
- Take appropriate care of tools, equipment and customer property
- Recognise a basic range of tree and shrub species using common and scientific names
- Identify pests, diseases, disorders and tree defects
- Carry out a range of ground-based pruning operations
- Fell and process small trees
- Support aerial tree workers both Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP) and climbing with transfer of equipment for aerial tree work operations
- Perform an aerial rescue of colleague from a rope and harness and a MEWP
- Work safely at height in the tree under supervision
- Prepare sites for planting, plant trees and provide support, protection and aftercare

Behaviours

- Has a safety mind-set to protect self, colleagues and others
- Works effectively within a team/crew
- Consistently presents a professional manner both in appearance, language and behaviour
- Is reliable: consistently attends work and arrives on time
- Communicates effectively with the job supervisor, colleagues, clients and others to achieve the specification

.End Point Assessment

The End Point Assessment will contain 4 components: all components must be passed for the apprentice to meet the apprenticeship standard and will consist of:

- Holistic project
- Online multiple choice knowledge tests
- Practical tests
- Structured Interview

There will be 2 levels of achievement: Pass and Distinction

Costs:

Costs will be dependent on several factors such as the age of the apprentice, size of employer (no. of employees), work location and level of experience in the sector. Incentives may be available for some employers. Please contact us for more information.

How to apply

To apply for this course, complete a Myerscough College Application Form. You can either contact the Employer Services Team or download one from the website.

Please return the completed application form to:

Employer Services, Myerscough College, Bilsborrow, Preston, PR3 0RY

Or email the completed electronic form to wbapplications@myerscough.ac.uk

Telephone: 01995 642255

Email: employerenquiries@myerscough.ac.uk

Website: www.myerscough.ac.uk