

Updated Notification:

NOCN Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Insulation and Building Treatments (Construction) - External Wall Insulation Boarder and Finisher

Dear Colleague,

As part of our commitment to provide qualifications in line with industry requirements we regularly review all qualifications across all occupations.

A review has been concluded, by the NOCN Group on the NOCN Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Insulation and Building Treatments (Construction) - External Wall Insulation Boarder and Finisher (603/7207/2) qualification.

As a result of this review, we have developed a **EWPA route** for the **NOCN Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Insulation and Building Treatments (Construction) - External Wall Insulation Boarder and Finisher (603/7207/2)** qualification. The documentation can be located under 5.2 Building and Construction Folder – EWPA route in vLearn.

What is Experienced Worker Practical Assessment?

In the dynamic landscape of the construction industry, continual evolution is normal, marked by the integration of cutting-edge technologies, new materials, and a growing emphasis on sustainable practices. This progression necessitates a parallel adaptation in rules, regulations, and qualifications for tradespeople, ensuring that the industry is safe during transition periods.

While possessing the right qualifications is crucial for safeguarding colleagues and clients, it can pose challenges for seasoned tradespeople. Many of these individuals possess the requisite skills and knowledge but lack official accreditation, either due to extended experience or unfinished training portfolios.

Experienced Worker Practical Assessments (EWPA) offer a pragmatic solution to this common dilemma. Functioning as a fast-track method to attain an NVQ Level 2 and on a selected NVQ Level 3 qualification, EWPA caters specifically to experienced tradespeople without formal credentials. This proves invaluable, especially for those who have dedicated substantial time to their industry or faced obstacles in completing their formal training.

The Experienced Worker Practical Assessment pathway was set up by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) to provide a far more streamlined route for experienced tradespeople to achieve their NVQ Level 2 and now a selected Level 3 NVQ route has been developed by NOCN. Rather than completing a lengthy training course and portfolio covering tasks that you are already comfortable with, your skills are verified through practical assessments to ensure they are up to the required NVQ standard.

The benefits of completing an EWPA

Once your skills have been assessed, deemed up to the required standard and you've gained your NVQ, you'll be eligible to apply for a CSCS card in your chosen profession, a requirement for anyone wanting to work on any UK construction site. It also opens the possibility of higher-level training, including your NVQ Level 3.

EWPA Assessment Method

This assessment method has been designed to assess a Learner's ability to demonstrate the skill and knowledge required for a Level 2 and a selected Level 3 qualification. This will include:

- planning work
- working efficiently
- working to recognised industrial tolerances
- working productively
- working safely

What's the difference between an NVQ and an EWPA?

There are two options to attain an NVQ Level 2 and a selected NVQ Level 3 – it is either through on-site assessment or through Experienced Worker Practical Assessment (EWPA).

- On-site assessment involves the assessment of workers during the co. It would typically take three to six months.
- EWPA is a fast-track method, where candidates are required to visit off-site assessments for around two days. It would enable workers to display their practical skills and exchange opinions with the assessor.

Who is EWPA for?

- This route is typically for tradespeople who have five years' worth of experience in the trade. The experience doesn't necessarily need to have been in the UK, though practices and environments you have used and worked in must be similar and up to the same standards as UK construction sites to be eligible.

To apply for EWPA approval, you will need to download the application form from Horizon under the Key NOCN Documents on the homepage and submit via email to assurance@nocn.org.uk.

Once assurance have given approval, an email will be sent confirming this.

OR

Approved Centres may apply for the Experienced Worker Practical (EWPA) route for a qualification, where this is available, if they are approved to deliver the qualification **and** where they currently hold DCS for that qualification. To apply, please complete this form via **vlearn** and submit it to the NOCN Quality Assurance Team for review. You will not be able to utilize the EWPA route until this has been confirmed in writing by NOCN.

Please note that only certain qualifications are available to be delivered using EWPA and your Centre must already have approval for the qualification and hold Direct Claims Status (DCS) for that qualification.

If you have any questions, please contact the customer co-ordinator on:

0300 999 1177 (select option 1, then 3)

Kind regards,

NOCN