

MPQC Level 3 Diploma in Field and Laboratory Geotechnical Activities							
Ofqual Reference Number:	610/3582/8				Regulation Start Date:	Regulation End Date:	Certification End Date:
Qualification Level: 3	EQF Level: 4	Credits: 51	GLH: 267	TQT: 510	01/01/2024	31/12/2028	31/12/2031
Qualification Purpose:	Primary Purpose - Confirm competence in an occupational role to the standards required Additional Purpose – To aid selection into a specific job role						
Applicable National Occupational Standard(s):	Units within the qualification are based on Laboratory and Associated Technical Activities NOS.						
Qualification Summary:	This qualification is specifically designed for those individuals involved in a range of field and laboratory geotechnical testing and activities.						
Qualification Structure:	The qualification is made up of five pathways that are relevant to different Field and Laboratory Geotechnical job roles. Candidates must achieve the mandatory units plus a minimum of one optional unit in their chosen pathway to be awarded the qualification. Multiple pathways may be completed, but there must be evidence to clearly cover all criteria within each pathway.						
Pre-Entry Requirements:	None						
Exemptions and RPL:	Where a previously completed unit has exactly the same reference number and the context of the activity is appropriate an exemption may be claimed following approval from the AO. RPL could be claimed where a unit may have been updated to show a different reference number, but the Candidate can demonstrate their competence is still current, relevant, reliable and sufficient. Refer to MP Awards Exemption and RPL Policy PP0033 for more details.						
Language of Assessment:	English						
Progression Route:	Candidates may progress to supervisory or management qualifications where relevant to their role.						

Pathways (At least one must be completed)							
Pathway 1 – Geotechnical Laboratory Testing Technician							
Mandatory Units – candidates must achieve ALL units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Contribute to and Promote a Positive Safety, Health and Environmental Culture	M	3	8	M/615/2448	SHE01	25	
Maintain Effective and Efficient Working Relationships for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	4	L/650/9517	FLGA02	25	
Access and Communicate Geotechnical Information to Authorised Personnel	M	3	5	H/650/9541	FLGA13	39	
Provide Technical Advice and Guidance for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	11	K/650/9543	FLGA14	57	
Plan the Geotechnical Activity	M	3	7	L/650/9544	FLGA15	41	
Carry out Complex Geotechnical Testing Operations	M	3	11	M/650/9554	FLGA16	57	
Lead the Work of Teams and Individuals to Achieve Objectives in Geotechnical Activities	M	3	9	T/650/9547	FLGA17	48	
Optional Units – candidates must achieve at least ONE units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Carry Out Technical Investigations	O	3	8	Y/650/9548	FLGA18	52	
Diagnose Faults, Repair and Maintain Technical Equipment for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	H/650/9550	FLGA19	43	
Maintain and Control Stocks Of All Resources, Equipment And Consumables for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	5	J/650/9551	FLGA20	23	
Provide Training for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	K/650/9552	FLGA21	52	

Pathway 2 – Geotechnical Field Testing Technician							
Mandatory Units – candidates must achieve ALL units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Contribute to and Promote a Positive Safety, Health and Environmental Culture	M	3	8	M/615/2448	SHE01	25	
Maintain Effective and Efficient Working Relationships for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	4	L/650/9517	FLGA02	25	
Access and Communicate Geotechnical Information to Authorised Personnel	M	3	5	H/650/9541	FLGA13	39	
Provide Technical Advice and Guidance for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	11	K/650/9543	FLGA14	57	
Plan the Geotechnical Activity	M	3	7	L/650/9544	FLGA15	41	
Carry out Complex Geotechnical Testing Operations	M	3	11	M/650/9554	FLGA16	57	
Lead the Work of Teams and Individuals to Achieve Objectives in Geotechnical Activities	M	3	9	T/650/9547	FLGA17	48	
Optional Units – candidates must achieve at least ONE units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Carry Out Technical Investigations	O	3	8	Y/650/9548	FLGA18	52	
Diagnose Faults, Repair and Maintain Technical Equipment for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	H/650/9550	FLGA19	43	
Maintain and Control Stocks Of All Resources, Equipment And Consumables for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	5	J/650/9551	FLGA20	23	
Provide Training for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	K/650/9552	FLGA21	52	

Pathway 3 – Cone Penetration Testing (CPT) Technician							
Mandatory Units – candidates must achieve ALL units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Contribute to and Promote a Positive Safety, Health and Environmental Culture	M	3	8	M/615/2448	SHE01	25	
Maintain Effective and Efficient Working Relationships for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	4	L/650/9517	FLGA02	25	
Access and Communicate Geotechnical Information to Authorised Personnel	M	3	5	H/650/9541	FLGA13	39	
Provide Technical Advice and Guidance for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	11	K/650/9543	FLGA14	57	
Plan the Geotechnical Activity	M	3	7	L/650/9544	FLGA15	41	
Carry out Complex Geotechnical Testing Operations	M	3	11	M/650/9554	FLGA16	57	
Lead the Work of Teams and Individuals to Achieve Objectives in Geotechnical Activities	M	3	9	T/650/9547	FLGA17	48	
Optional Units – candidates must achieve at least ONE unit							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Carry Out Technical Investigations	O	3	8	Y/650/9548	FLGA18	52	
Diagnose Faults, Repair and Maintain Technical Equipment for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	H/650/9550	FLGA19	43	
Maintain and Control Stocks Of All Resources, Equipment And Consumables for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	5	J/650/9551	FLGA20	23	
Provide Training for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	K/650/9552	FLGA21	52	

Pathway 4 – Construction Materials Testing Technician							
Mandatory Units – candidates must achieve ALL units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Contribute to and Promote a Positive Safety, Health and Environmental Culture	M	3	8	M/615/2448	SHE01	25	
Maintain Effective and Efficient Working Relationships for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	4	L/650/9517	FLGA02	25	
Access and Communicate Geotechnical Information to Authorised Personnel	M	3	5	H/650/9541	FLGA13	39	
Provide Technical Advice and Guidance for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	11	K/650/9543	FLGA14	57	
Plan the Geotechnical Activity	M	3	7	L/650/9544	FLGA15	41	
Carry out Complex Geotechnical Testing Operations	M	3	11	M/650/9554	FLGA16	57	
Optional Units – candidates must achieve at least ONE units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Carry Out Technical Investigations	O	3	8	Y/650/9548	FLGA18	52	
Diagnose Faults, Repair and Maintain Technical Equipment for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	H/650/9550	FLGA19	43	
Maintain and Control Stocks Of All Resources, Equipment And Consumables for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	5	J/650/9551	FLGA20	23	
Provide Training for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	K/650/9552	FLGA21	52	

Pathway 5 – Geotechnical Instrumentation and Monitoring Technician							
Mandatory Units – candidates must achieve ALL units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Contribute to and Promote a Positive Safety, Health and Environmental Culture	M	3	8	M/615/2448	SHE01	25	
Maintain Effective and Efficient Working Relationships for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	4	L/650/9517	FLGA02	25	
Access and Communicate Geotechnical Information to Authorised Personnel	M	3	5	H/650/9541	FLGA13	39	
Provide Technical Advice and Guidance for Geotechnical Activities	M	3	11	K/650/9543	FLGA14	57	
Plan the Geotechnical Activity	M	3	7	L/650/9544	FLGA15	41	
Carry out Complex Geotechnical Instrumentation and Monitoring Activities	M	3	11	M/650/9545	FLGA22	57	
Lead the Work of Teams and Individuals to Achieve Objectives in Geotechnical Activities	M	3	9	T/650/9547	FLGA17	48	
Optional Units – candidates must achieve at least ONE units							
Unit Title	Unit Status	Level	Credits	Ofqual Reference	MP Awards Reference	GLH	RPL Units
Carry Out Technical Investigations	O	3	8	Y/650/9548	FLGA18	52	
Diagnose Faults, Repair and Maintain Technical Equipment for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	H/650/9550	FLGA19	43	
Maintain and Control Stocks Of All Resources, Equipment And Consumables for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	5	J/650/9551	FLGA20	23	
Provide Training for Geotechnical Activities	O	3	7	K/650/9552	FLGA21	52	

Centre Staff Requirements:**Assessors and Internal Verifiers** must:

1. Be **registered** and recognised **by an Approved Centre, registered and approved by MP Awards**.
2. Show evidence of having assessed in field and laboratory geotechnical activities in the last 18 months;
3. Have a minimum of 10 years' experience in the industry (evidenced by a CV and verified witness testimonies) and show evidence of CPD;
4. Show evidence of relevant industry supervising training;
5. Have 3 years assessor experience;
6. Hold, or are working towards the appropriate qualification as listed in the table below:

Assessor	Internal Verifier
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment, or • Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement, or • SQA Accredited L&D 9DI Assess Workplace Competence Using Direct and Indirect Methods (SCQF Level 8), or • A1 Assess Learners Using a Range of Methods*, or • D32 and D33 Assess Learner Performance Using Differing Sources of Evidence*. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of the Assessment Process and Practice, or • Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Process and Practice, or • SQA Accredited L&D 11 Internally Monitor and Maintain the Quality of Workplace Assessment (SCQF Level 8), or • V1 Conduct Internal Verification of the Assessment Process*, or • D34 Internally Verify the Assessment Process*.

*Holders of A1, D32 or D33 must:

- Assess to the revised National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Assessment;
- Show evidence of CPD to the revised NOS;
- Show evidence of having assessed within the last 18 months;

*Holders of V1 or D34 must:

- Verify to the revised National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Internal Verification;
- Show evidence of CPD to the revised NOS;
- Show evidence of having internally verified within the last 18 months.

Assessment Methods:

Must be assessed and quality assured in accordance with the Minerals Matter Assessment Strategy and MP Awards evidence requirements.

For this qualification all learning outcomes must be assessed using methods appropriate to the assessment of competence-based qualifications. There must be valid, authentic and sufficient evidence for all the assessment criteria. There is no requirement for each unit to be assessed separately. Indeed, Assessors are encouraged to adopt a holistic approach but it is essential that evidence for the assessment criteria in each unit is also identified individually.

The primary source of performance evidence will be from observation in the workplace and examining products of work, candidate testimony and questioning/discussions, supported by other forms of evidence such as witness testimonies.

Simulation is generally not allowed, exceptions to this will be indicated in the appropriate Assessment Strategy/ies, these must be agreed prior to use with the External Verifier.

Minimum Performance Evidence Requirements:

It is expected that this qualification will be delivered over a sufficient period of time to enable the demonstration of **repeatable** performance and allow for quality assurance to be undertaken. This 'period of time' could vary dependent on the candidate's ability to generate suitable and sufficient evidence.

MP Awards recommends a minimum timeframe for this qualification of **10 weeks**. This should be measured from the date of candidate registration.

The mandatory minimum timeframe for this qualification is **4 weeks** measured from the first assessment judgement to when the achievement record is signed off and must include a minimum of 2 observations on different dates.

Assessing Knowledge and Understanding:

For this qualification all learning outcomes must be assessed using methods appropriate to the assessment of workplace knowledge. There must be valid, authentic and sufficient evidence for all of the assessment criteria. The examples in the list are not exhaustive.

Holistic approach is encouraged. Verbal/written questioning (recorded); Professional interview (recorded); Learner statements

Assessment System:

Whilst Approved Centres are free to develop their own assessment record system; MP Awards has developed a ready-made system for Centres to use which is available at no cost. However, Centres are advised to check with MP Awards when devising their own assessment system to ensure it meets the standards in full.

Endorsements: None. Certificates will be issued with the name of the achieved pathway specified.

Fee Structure

Full Qualification and Unit registration fees which are inclusive of certification fees can be found on the approved price list, details are available on the website or by contacting MP Awards on 0115 972 6121

Review of Charges: Fees are reviewed annually and any changes notified to Approved Centres in October for implementation in January