Purpose Statement

ABC Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture (600/2582/7)

Arboriculture industry is highly specialised and can involve working with a vast array of machines, materials and equipment; from planting stock and chemicals through to chainsaws, harvesters and computer software. A wide range of skills and knowledge is therefore required as there is a significant variety of jobs and tasks involved. ABCs Arboriculture qualifications cover the industry requirements, which allow you to progress into such a specialist career.

Overview

The Level 4 Award, Certificate and Diploma in Arboriculture are designed for those people working in arboriculture, in both the public and private sectors, to complement their training and experience, and to provide evidence of their knowledge of arboriculture.

This qualification has been developed in collaboration with industry, providers and Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the Land based industries.

This qualification is recognised by The Arboriculture Association as an entry qualification to Membership.

Who is this qualification for?

The ABC Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture has been designed for adults and young people (16+) who have an interest in the subject area and are looking to develop work-related skills. It is also suitable for those people working in forestry in both the public and private sectors, to complement their training and experience and to provide evidence of their knowledge of Arboriculture.

This qualification is designed specifically for those learners who:

- have been involved in the practical side of the industry and wish to progress into a more managerial role
- work in related disciplines such as horticulture, forestry, countryside management, landscape architecture and planning and wish to increase their knowledge of arboriculture
• are currently working as tree officers, technicians and those involved in tree survey works who wish to achieve a recognised vocational qualification

There are no specific qualification requirements for entry onto the Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture. However, it would be advisable to have some prior knowledge of the land based industry. Qualifications that might provide useful include:

Further Education
• Level 2 Certificate in Arboriculture
• Level 2 Certificate in Forestry
• Level 3 Certificate or Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture

Work-based learning
• Trees and Timber Advanced Apprenticeship

Alternatively voluntary or unpaid employment in a land based role could provide a useful entry onto this qualification. However, to commence the qualification learners do not need to be in work.

What does the qualification cover?
The ABC Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture (600/2582/7) provides you with the technical and practical knowledge that businesses need. This qualification will enable you to specialise in the following job roles:
• Assistant/Tree Officer
• Tree Surveyor
• Utility Arb Surveyor

This 49 credit qualification has six mandatory units: one: 9, 8, 7, 6 credit units and tow 5 credit units. You must achieve a minimum of 49 credits. The remaining 9 credits can be attained from the optional units. This qualification is 100% vocational in its content.

Mandatory Units
• Pest, disease and disorder identification
• Tree biomechanics and maintenance
• Tree development and protection
• Woody vegetation formation and physiology
• Principles of tree management
• Selection, planting and design with hardy nursery stock for amenity and landscape purposes

Optional Units
• Principles of woodland establishment and management
• Tree related damage to build structures

What could this qualification lead to?

Will the qualification lead to employment, and if so, in which job role and at what level?
For those successfully achieving the ABC Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture, there are available career developments into higher level job roles such as:
• Arboricultural Surveyor
• Arboriculture/Woodland Consultant
• Head Forester

Will the qualification lead to further learning?
This qualification provides suitable skills and experience to progress to other higher level qualifications.

In addition, achievement of these qualifications should provide a solid foundation of skills supporting progression to higher levels of responsibility and opening up the possibility of entrepreneurial activities such as starting one’s own business.

Higher Education:
• ABC Level 6 Certificate/Diploma in Arboriculture
• HND Arboriculture and Urban Forestry
• Foundation Degrees
• BSc Honours Degrees – Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, Sustainable Forestry Management
• Post Graduate Diploma (PGdip) or Masters (MSc) – Arboriculture, Forestry
• Related Professional courses
If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification or it is available at different skills levels, why should a student take this particular one?

The Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture is part of a larger suite of Arboriculture qualifications:

- Level 4 Award in Arboriculture
- Level 4 Certificate in Arboriculture
- Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture

The reason for having varying sizes of qualification in the suite at Level 4 is to meet the various needs of you the learner. You can top-up, or build up knowledge and skills before moving to the next level of learning, if arboriculture is your career decision.

The Level 4 Award in Arboriculture is suitable for you if you are more comfortable with a bite sized approach to learning.

The Certificate is appropriate for you if you have completed the Award and committed to further learning through a bite sized approach, or for more motivated learners who are ready to make a longer commitment to learning, without first undertaking the smaller Award sized qualification. This Certificate allows you to develop across a broader area depending on your specific needs and interests, with the Diploma providing an extension on the Certificate. The different size qualifications add depth and breadth to the specialism being studied without duplicating the learning covered by each qualification.

It is hoped that learners who successfully complete this qualification can move forward with increased confidence into further training.

Who supports the qualification?

Industry

Further and Higher Education
- Merrist Wood College
- Tree Life Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd
- Warwickshire College
• Northumberland College

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the qualification can be found at:

http://www.abcawards.co.uk/Arboriculture