

# ***ELECTRICAL SCHEME ENTRY REQUIREMENTS***



***THE POWER BEHIND YOUR BUSINESS***



# NICEIC and ELECSA are members of the Electrotechnical Assessment Specification (EAS) Management Committee; this committee is responsible for developing the Electrotechnical Assessment Specification.

This guide provides an overview of the EAS and changes to entry requirements for the electrical schemes operated by NICEIC and ELECSA.

As part of the overall construction sector raising the bar and an ongoing push for greater competence levels in the construction and building services sector the EAS has been updated to include additional requirements for registered business across the electrical sector.

## ***OVERVIEW OF EAS***

The EAS is intended for use by Certification and Registration Bodies undertaking the assessment of businesses carrying out Electrical work.

The January 2020 Electrotechnical Assessment Specification (EAS) replaces the previous EAS (July 2015) and came into effect from the 1st September 2020.

The EAS describes:

- The minimum requirements for a business (e.g. contractor) to be recognised by a certification body (NICEIC & ELECSA) as competent to undertake all electrotechnical work types. As well as defining the requirements for Competent Persons Schemes in England & Wales
- The competence requirements for registered Qualified Supervisors
- Interpretation of the general requirements for bodies operating product certification (including process and service) schemes to ISO/IEC 17065 (Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services)

The EAS is developed by a management committee that includes representatives of the competent person scheme providers, trade associations such as ECA and SELECT, the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, the Welsh Government, Electrical Safety First, other industry bodies such as Awarding Organisations and the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). The IET provides administrative support to the EAS Management Committee and provides a platform for the publication of the standard on its website.

The specification is prepared to support the electrical industry (and other interested parties) in introducing electrical safety and competence into the Building Regulations.

# SCHEME ENTRY REQUIREMENTS - TRAINING, QUALIFICATIONS, AND THE LIKE

Appendix 4 sets out the minimum requirements in terms of adequate education, training and practical skills required when applying to be a Qualified Supervisor with a Certification or Registration Body such as NICEIC and ELECSA. Appendix 4 is separated into two sections, and from 1st September 2021 applications will not be accepted based on Appendix 4A, which means auditable evidence routes will no longer be acceptable for applicant Qualified Supervisors. Table 4A (below) defines the application routes for persons who undertake Electrotechnical work, to apply to become a Qualified Supervisor for a business.

Successful applicants will demonstrate at Assessment the required combination of technical knowledge, occupational training, and practical skills. This is usually achieved through completion of an industry-approved apprenticeship, or, for experienced workers, through accredited qualifications achieved via Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL). It is acceptable to permit new applications from an existing or previously recognised Qualified Supervisor, provided that, they have been a Qualified Supervisor within two years of the application. They can provide a letter or similar evidence from the previous scheme provider confirming their Qualified Supervisor status and the scope of work previously assessed, which must be equal to the scope of work being applied for.

An applicant Qualified Supervisor will need to have at least two years' evidence of responsibility for the technical standard of electrical work and evidence of ongoing Continuous Professional Development.

**Table 4A Overview of Applicable Minimum Technical Competence Requirements by Work Category**

Work Category*	Underpinning Core Technical Competence		Wiring Regulations	Initial Verification	Periodic Inspection and Testing
	Dwellings	All			
<b>A1 Electrical installations up to and including 1000V AC or 1500V DC</b>	Table 4B	Table 4C	Table 4D	Table 4E	Table 4F
A1.1 Dwellings (BS 7671)	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
A1.2 Other than Dwellings (BS 7671)	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
A1.4 Dwellings - defined scope	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
<b>A2 Periodic inspection and testing</b>	Table 4B	Table 4C	Table 4D	Table 4E	Table 4F
A2.1 Dwellings (BS 7671)	-	✓	✓	-	✓
A2.2 Other than Dwellings (BS 7671)	-	✓	✓	-	✓

The competence requirements can be demonstrated by the recognised route in Table 4B to 4F below.

**Table 4B Underpinning Core Technical Competence, limited to dwellings only (Work Category A1.1 and 1.4)**

Route	Recognised Qualifications
1	Level 3 Certificate in Installing, Testing and Ensuring Compliance of Electrical Installations in Dwellings
2	Industry apprenticeship, recognised historical industry qualifications and/or certificates of competence (refer to EAS Qualification Guide)
3	Mature candidate assessment via the recognition of Prior Experience and Learning (RPEL)



**Table 4C** Underpinning Core Technical Competence, all Electrical Work (Work Categories A1.1, 1.2, 1.4 A2.1 and 2.2)

Route	Recognised Qualifications
1	Level 3 Electrotechnical apprenticeship, incorporating end point assessment of competence
2	Industry-approved apprenticeship, recognised historical industry qualifications and/or certificates of competence (refer to EAS Qualification Guide)
3	Mature candidate assessment via the recognition of Prior Experience and Learning (RPEL)

## OTHER REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Unless included within a formal Qualification defined in Tables 4B or 4C, the applicant shall hold the following qualifications, in accordance with the requirements of Table 4A

Table ref	Purpose	Qualification
4D	Wiring Regulations*	Level 3 Award in the Requirements for Electrical Installations: BS 7671 (as amended)
4E	Initial Verification*	Level 3 Award in the Initial Verification of Electrical Installations
4F	Periodic Inspection*	Level 3 Award in the Periodic Inspection and Testing of Electrical Installations

\*these may be achieved within a combined qualification

## ARE MY QUALIFICATIONS SUITABLE?

The electrical industry has developed the EAS Qualifications Guide. This Guide has been developed under the direction of the EAS Management Committee to provide supporting information to Appendix 4B of the Electrotechnical Assessment Specification (January 2020) regarding the requirements for qualified supervisors and persons carrying out electrical inspection and testing, effective from 1st September 2021.

The guide is to be used by scheme applicants, to identify the eligible qualifications that are acceptable to the NICEIC for the work categories within Table 4A, as well as providing guidance for applicants when the required qualifications are not held.

The EAS Qualifications Guide can be found here at [theiet.org](http://theiet.org)

## WHAT IS THE MATURE CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT?

If you need to get your skills and experience recognised to the industry Level 3 benchmark, the Electrotechnical Experienced Worker Assessment can help.

A new process which replaces the JIB Mature Candidate Assessment recognises occupational competence for people who have been working as an electrician for typically over five years, but have not been able to complete an apprenticeship or achieve an equivalent Level 3 vocational qualification.

It has been developed via an industry group comprising ECA, JIB, NET, Unite, Certsure, ECS, NAPIT, City and Guilds and EAL.

The new Experienced Worker Assessment is based on the same content as the electrotechnical apprenticeship, meaning both new entrants and existing workers are now being assessed and accredited against the same industry standard.

Available now, the new assessment is accessible across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

For further information visit [the-esp.org.uk](http://the-esp.org.uk)

## CREDITING ELECTROTECHNICAL COMPETENCE IN SCOTLAND

If you are based in Scotland and you have been working as an electrician for a number of years but don't have craft qualifications, the Crediting Electrical Competence scheme allows you to have your previous experience and qualifications assessed.

To be eligible for the Crediting Electrical Competence scheme you'll need to either:

- Have at least 10 years' experience as a practising electrician, if you have no formal qualifications, or
- Have at least three years' experience as a practising electrician, if you have relevant qualifications.

Before you can become a qualified electrician, you'll also need to take the **Final Integrated Competence Assessment (FICA)**.

**Take a look at this journey which shows the whole process.**