**EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE (EQA) OF DIGITAL APPRENTICESHIPS**

**Requirement for Digital Specialist Sub-Contractors**

**Introduction**

We are looking for a number of up to date digital professionals, to work with us on a sub-contracted basis for a number of days a year, to undertake external assessment of level 3 and level 4 digital apprenticeships – to ensure that the end-point assessment is robust and is occupationally valid.

We are looking for people with expertise in

Software development and software testing

Infrastructure and Network Engineering

Unified communications

Cyber security

Digital Marketing

IT Technical Sales

These roles are critical to ensuring the quality, relevance and impact of digital apprentices and provide a unique opportunity to support the supply of new talent in to the industry.

**Description of the work requirements:**

NSAR, as the EQA provider for digital apprenticeships, is looking for occupationally competent people able to scrutinise the work of end-point assessment organisations and the assessment outcomes of apprentices in responses to the assessment instruments developed by end-point assessment organisations (EPAOs). The scrutiny work will be focused on specific digital apprenticeship standards (see table below) and so the occupational competence of the specialist must be directly related to one or more of these standards.

The work will involve supporting NSAR staff in:

- understanding the appropriateness of the interpretation of the apprenticeship standards, assessment plans and occupational briefs being made by EPAOs
- scrutinising the assessment decisions made in response to apprentice work, identifying if the work meets the standards and the occupational brief
- comparing assessment decisions across EPAOs to identify the extent to which these are comparable

Training in end-point assessment of apprenticeships will be given to those with the appropriate specialist occupational knowledge.

# Person Specification

### Essential

- Working directly within the occupational competence of the apprenticeship standard **or** direct performance management responsibility for those working within the occupational competence of the standard
- Occupational record and credibility that will instil confidence in EPAOs, reassuring them that you are a credible reviewer able to scrutinise apprentice work and assessor judgements from a position of insight and authority. This will mean meeting the occupational requirement for assessors as defined in the assessment plans, namely:

  "up to date, relevant, in-depth, and broad experience of working in this occupation; recent and relevant industry expertise higher than the level of the occupation in the standard; and the possession of practical and up to date knowledge of the application of current working practices, infrastructure, tools and technologies appropriate to this occupation and relevant across the sectors/sizes of businesses apprentices will be working in "

### Desirable

- Knowledge of apprenticeships the apprenticeship standard
- Awareness and understanding of assessment practices

### Anticipated workload

- Between 6 and 10 days, per standard, per year (may be more where there are a larger number of EPAOs offering assessment services for the target apprenticeship standard)

### Application process:

- Send curriculum vitae and contact details to: barry.smith@nsar.co.uk
- Please indicate clearly the apprenticeship standard/s you are interested in.

### Fees:

- This is a paid consultancy role

For more information about the service, visit  **www.nsar.co.uk/digital-eqa/the-digital-eqa-service/**

# Table of Digital Standards

| Standards | Level |
|---|---|
| Cyber Intrusion Analyst | 4 |
| Cyber Security Technologist | 4 |
| Data Analyst | 4 |
| Infrastructure Technician | 3 |
| IS Business Analyst | 4 |
| Network Engineer | 4 |
| Software Developer | 4 |
| Software Development Technician | 3 |
| Software Tester | 4 |
| Unified Communications Technician | 3 |
| Unified Communications Trouble Shooter | 4 |
| Digital Marketer | 3 |
| IT Technical Salesperson | 3 |
| IT Solutions Technician | 3 |