

Employer-led External Quality Assurance of Apprenticeships

ScreenSkills Apprenticeship Quality Board: Invitation to Employers to Join

NSAR is supporting employers from the screen sector to lead on the external quality assurance of the end-point assessments of apprenticeships. NSAR already delivers this service to the rail, digital and logistics sectors and, on the basis of our track record, we have been approved by the Institute for Apprentices and Technical Education (IfATE) to take over responsibility for the screen sector, at the employers' request and with the support of ScreenSkills.

We are establishing an employer-led board (the ScreenSkills Apprenticeship Quality Board) to lead this work, with our support, and this is an invitation for employers who might be interested in applying to express an interest.

The Board will be critical to the success of the External Quality Assurance (EQA) service and will oversee and guide the quality assurance work we do. We are looking for employers with a real interest in high-quality apprenticeship training and assessment to become members of the Board, helping us take this work forward.

EQA of apprenticeships is a key feature of the apprenticeship reforms because it assures apprentices are being fairly assessed when they take their end-point assessment, and it completes the quality loop which starts with employers creating the initial apprenticeship standards, through to delivery and ending with end-point assessment. The employer-led approach is a key means of ensuring employers maintain an oversight of the quality of apprentice assessment outcomes.

This Board will do important work in externally quality assuring the end-point assessment marketplace, initially for the seven screen apprenticeship standards which have been approved and published by IfATE:

- **Assistant Technical Director (Visual Effects)**
- **Broadcast Production Assistant**
- **Junior 2D Artist (Visual Effects)**
- **Junior Content Producer**
- **Post Production Technical Operator**
- **Junior Journalist**
- **Photographic Assistant**
- **Props Technician**
- **Broadcast and Media Systems Technical Operator**

The Board will assume responsibility for other screen standards as they approved.

This work ensures that, regardless of the end-point assessment organisation chosen or the assessor encountered, the apprentice and their employer can be confident that the assessment outcomes will be the same.

This opportunity offers the chance to:

- Help ensure the quality of apprenticeships in the screen sector
- Undertake a high-profile role, with the opportunity to make an impact on the future talent in the sector
- Work with others in the sector to ensure employers remain in key roles in the apprenticeship reforms

- Gain insight and in-depth understanding of the impact of apprenticeship reforms in the sector

The commitment is likely to be around ½ day per Board meeting for four meetings a year. Typical tasks you will undertake as a Board member include:

1. Maintaining an overview of the manner in which end-point assessment organisations are compliant with the employer intentions for assessment of the standard as set out in the end-point assessment plan, offering advice and direction where there are issues found,
2. Ensuring the end-point assessment marketplace for each standard is functioning properly, providing reassurance for other employer- users that this is indeed the case,
3. Advising on the extent to which apprenticeship standards and assessment plans are performing as intended, based on the end-point assessment apprentice outcomes and end-point assessment performance data
4. Leading for the Board on particular areas of interest, e.g. a particular standard/s, fair assessment, risk, cost recovery etc
5. Holding NSAR accountable for the EQA service performance

We are looking for individuals who are working in the screen sector, and ideally, you will be in a role which involves learning, training or staff development – including apprentices.

If you would like to consider becoming a member of the Board to support employer-led external quality assurance of apprenticeships in the screen industries, please contact sara.hanif@nsar.co.uk for more information including how to apply.