

Purpose Statement

ABC Level 2 Certificate in Arboriculture (50114116)

Overview

The Certificate in Arboriculture is 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 is the theory component of the Royal Forestry Society (RFS) Certificate in Arboriculture but is also a valuable stand-alone award for those who plan to work in Arboriculture or would like to increase their knowledge of tree, woodland and forest management.

Learners, who have passed the ABC L2 Certificate in Arboriculture, should consider the completion of the full RFS Certificate in Arboriculture. This is achieved via the completion of appropriate competence tests to validate their practical ability. The practical competence tests are provided by NPTC and LANTRA. Full details of the tests are available on the RFS website <http://www.rfs.org.uk/>. Details of the approved training centres where you can undertake Certificates of Competence can be found at the following link <http://lantra.co.uk/business/training-and-courses/course-finder?query=competence+tests>

On completion of the **ABC Level 2 Certificate in Arboriculture** and all required Certificates of Competence components, learners should send photocopies/scanned copies of all of the certificates to the RFS Education Manager at: education@rfs.org.uk or Royal Forestry Society, The Hay Barns, Home Farm Drive, Upton Estate, Banbury OX15 6HU. The RFS will verify all paperwork and issue the full RFS Certificate in Arboriculture. There is no charge for applicants.

Once you have passed the ABC Level 2 Certificate in Arboriculture and all required Certificates of Competence components, please send photocopies of the certificates to the Education Manager at: Royal Forestry Society, The Hay Barns, Home Farm Drive, Upton Estate, Banbury OX15 6HU. The RFS will verify all paperwork and issue the full RFS Certificate in Arboriculture. There is no charge for applicants.

The RFS will then publish the names and home towns (but not the full address or any other details) of successful holders of the RFS Cert Arb in the spring issue of the *Quarterly Journal of Forestry* and promote candidates in press releases to the arboricultural and forestry media. Holders of the Certificate may also use the abbreviation Cert Arb RFS after their name.

Who is this qualification for?

The ABC Level 2 Certificate 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 of you working in forestry in both the public and private sectors, to complement your training and experience and to provide evidence of your knowledge of Arboriculture.

There are no specific qualification requirements for entry onto the Level 2 Certificate 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

- ABC Awards Level 1 Certificate in Land Based Operations

- ABC Awards Level 1 Certificate/Diploma in Practical Environmental Conservation
- ABC level 1 Certificate/Diploma in Practical Countryside Skills

Work-based learning

- ABC Level 1 Diploma in Work-Based Environmental Conservation

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 this qualification cover?

The ABC Level 2 Certificate in Arboriculture (501/1411/6) provides you the learner with the technical and practical knowledge that businesses need. This qualification will enable you to specialise in the following job roles: Forester, Woodsman, Chainsaw Operator, Forestry Contractor and Assistant Woodland Officer, Arboricultural Officer, Ground Worker.

This 21 credit qualification has five mandatory units – three 3 credit units, one 4 credit unit and one 5 credit unit. The remaining credit can be attained by choosing one 3 credit optional unit. This qualification is 100% vocational in its content.

You will cover aspects of:

Mandatory Units

- The interaction of soil environments and woody plants
- Woody plant physiology
- The supply, planting and aftercare of woody plants
- Principles of tree surgery operations
- Tree inspections and statute and common law applied to trees

Optional Units

- The principles of aerial tree surgery and ground based arboricultural operations
- Principles of woodlands, forestry and ecology
- The principles of managing special trees
- Principles of tree surgery equipment use and maintenance

What could this qualification lead to?

•Will the qualification lead to employment, and if so, in which job role and at what level?

The development of your knowledge, understanding and skills through achieving the ABC Level 2 Certificate in Arboriculture enables you as an individual to enter into employment and in conjunction with further learning work in the following job roles:

- Arboricultural consultant
- Arboricultural surveyor
- Arborist

Will the qualification lead to further learning?

Successful achievement of the **ABC Level 2 Certificate in Arboriculture** provides you with a suitable grounding in arboriculture to progress onto further specific training and skills development onto a variety of vocational qualifications, from further education through to higher education:

Further Education:

- Intermediate Apprenticeship in Trees and Timber

- Advanced Apprenticeship in Trees and Timber
- ABC Level 3 Certificate in Silviculture
- ABC Level 3 Diploma in Work-based Environmental Conservation

Professional Qualifications

- **RFS Certificate in Arboriculture** – subject to completing the relevant practical competence tests provided by NPTC/Lantra Awards.

The Certificate in Arboriculture enables you to be ready to go straight into the workplace and also have the added benefit of membership to a professional industry organisation.

Higher Education:

- ABC Level 4 Award/Certificate in Arboriculture
- Foundation Degrees
- BSc Honours Degrees – Forestry, Forestry Management, Woodland Ecology and Conservation
- Related Professional courses

Who supports the qualification?

Industry

- Royal Forestry Society

Professional Registration

Royal Forestry Society - <http://www.rfs.org.uk/learning/qualifications-courses-and-careers/rfs-qualifications/rfs-cert-arb-level-2/>

Further and Higher Education

Further Education Colleges offering higher level provision who support and offer this qualification can be found on our website

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the qualification can be found at

<http://www.abcawards.co.uk/archive-qualifications/1381/>