



What it's like to be a...

BCS Digital End Point Apprenticeship Associate Assessor

Software Development

In their own words...

We spoke to one of our assessors about what life is like as an end point assessor, how the role fits into daily life, what the benefits of the role are and what advice they'd give to anyone who is considering taking on an assessor role.

What is your current Job Role?

I am in full-time employment as Head of IT in a small - medium business.

Which area of apprenticeship assessing do you specialise in?

For assessments I specialise in the Software Development standard.

Why did you choose to become an assessor? What were/are your main motivators for taking on the role?

I decided to become an assessor because I wanted to play an active role in bringing through competent and professional IT specialists into our industry.

I also personally believe in the value of Digital apprenticeships. I'm in the middle of my career now, however, had the opportunity existed 25 years ago for me to begin my career in IT and Digital through an apprenticeship route I feel certain that is the path that I would have chosen.

How long have you been an assessor?

I'm just starting out as an assessor. I began assessing on my own in October 2021 and have performed 6 assessments so far.

How does being an assessor fit into your day-to-day life?

To fit in around my busy working schedule I commit to delivering 1 assessment per month. This means that I can perform around 3 or 4 hours of assessment prep across a few evenings. Occasionally I take half a day of leave, or development time, to get my pre-assessment admin tight and the final grading report written, without fear of impacting the day job.

How does being an assessor benefit you and your career?

Being an assessor benefits me as indirectly I get to see real world examples of challenges, issues, opportunities, and achievements that apprentices

are experiencing. Even though my role is more senior than the apprentices that I assess, I have been able to benefit from what I've seen and heard, and have an insight to fresh approaches to ways of working.

The assessment of someone's portfolio of work presents me with opportunities to see and hear about other tools and frameworks that my own team and I may also consider reviewing and implementing.

What positive outcomes have you seen from your work as an assessor?

For me the positive outcomes of my work as an assessor are all about helping younger people, primarily, to find their place during the early stages of their career in a chosen specialism, like Software Development. It is a great feeling when you have been able to assess an apprentices work and give them a positive grade outcome.

What advice would you give to someone who is considering becoming an assessor?

The advice that I would give to someone who is considering becoming an assessor would firstly be to use the support available from BCS to properly understand the standard that you would like to assess.

Also be aware of the time commitment. Plan to spend up to a full day, across at least a couple of sittings, for each of your first several apprentice assessments.

Additionally, I would like to add that the BCS administrative team and the BCS full-time assessors are a fantastically supportive team who have given me so much practical advice and guidance.

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Find out more and apply to be a BCS Digital End Point Apprenticeship Associate Assessor online today!

Visit our web page for more information about the role, including EPA assessor role requirements:

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