

What it's like to be a...

BCS Digital End Point Apprenticeship Associate Assessor

Overseas Assessor - Living the American dream

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 a Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) at a US technology company.

Which area of apprenticeship assessing do you specialise in?

I specialise in both the Cyber Security and Telecoms standards.

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

I started my career as an apprentice for a large telecoms company. As such, I experienced first-hand the value of what digital apprenticeships can bring.

This really made me want to contribute back and help others - in the same way that I had great support throughout my experience.

I truly believe apprenticeships are a viable option to university and being a part of changing people's lives gives a feeling like no other.

How long have you been an assessor?

I started in September 2019, and I have lost count of how many assessments I have completed! Earlier this year I moved to America where I now live and work full-time.

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

My working schedule is very busy due to the nature of my work. However, I try and ensure I fit some time in to complete assessments.

Through COVID lockdowns, this was often on a weekend – for example a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon. Sometimes I also work on assessments in the evenings.

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

The cyber security industry is really struggling with a worldwide skills shortage. It is an incredible feeling when you speak to really passionate

apprentices, and you subsequently see them complete the apprenticeship and go into the industry.

We need great people in cyber security, so that feeling of helping address the issues the industry faces is very rewarding.

Although I work in a senior position, I find that I often learn from apprentices due to their fresh perspectives on cyber security.

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

Take the time to understand which standards you want to assess. Make sure that you have the time to work on the assessments in a way that does not impact your full-time job.

Some assessments can be quite time consuming, and sometimes you have to make the difficult decision to refer someone.

However, when you speak to them again and they pass with flying colours it is very satisfying – particularly when they tell you that they learnt a lot from your feedback.

"Being a part of changing people's lives gives a feeling like no other."

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:

www.bcs.org/about-us/careers-at-bcs/bcs-digital-end-point-apprenticeship-associate-assessors-required/

