

Higher Apprenticeship Career Development Professional - Approved

At last it is official; the Higher Apprenticeship Standard and End Point Assessment for Career Development Professionals has been approved and signed off by the Institute for Apprenticeships.

This means that after many months of hard work, negotiation and drafting, employers, training providers and universities can now design a higher apprenticeship programme for the training of career development professionals, a title which includes careers advisers working with young people and adults and careers leaders working in schools and colleges.

“This announcement has come at just the right time”, says Laura Bell President of the Career Development Institute, which is the UK-wide professional body for the careers sector. “There is a growing skills shortage of qualified careers advisers in youth and adult guidance, the impact of which is being acutely felt in some areas of England.”

“Importantly for employers, this new higher apprenticeship has been allocated to Band 12, which means that we will be able to draw down up to £9,000 over two years to contribute to the cost of higher apprentice training”, she added. “Both employers of careers advisers and career leaders, ie schools and FE colleges, will be able to benefit as the qualification is flexible, depending on the units taken. This means that individuals can train to be either careers advisers or careers leaders through this new higher apprenticeship route.”

The Career Development Institute has long been advocating that careers advisers working with young people and adults should be qualified at a minimum of QCF level 6/SCQF level 11. The new two-year (24 months) apprenticeship route is at level 6, and includes the attainment of a level 6 or higher career-related qualification (minimum of 60 credits) approved by the Career Development Institute as giving eligibility to the Register of Career Development Professionals.

Jan Ellis, Chief Executive of the Career Development Institute (CDI) explains: “The UK Register of Career Development Professionals is the single national point of reference for ensuring and promoting the professional status of career development practitioners across the sector. All

Registered Career Development Professionals must work to the CDI's Code of Ethics and undertake and record a minimum of 25 hours CPD each year, which we monitor and check."

The Careers Strategy in England and the supporting statutory guidance for schools and colleges encourage employers to engage Registered Career Development Professionals. The registered status of practitioners can easily be checked through the CDI's website. The same facility can also be used by head teachers, employers, parents, indeed anyone seeking the services of a qualified and experienced career development practitioner.

With further reference to quality assurance Jan Ellis says, " We are delighted that the Career Development Institute will be providing the External Quality Assurance (EQA) of the End Point Assessment Organisations (EPAO) for this new Higher Apprenticeship Standard. Full details should be available next week on the Institute for Apprenticeships website".

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/career-development-professional/>

Ends...

Notes

1. The Career Development Institute is the UK-wide professional body for the career development sector, with a membership of over 4,500 career development professionals working in the public, private and voluntary and community sectors.
2. Our members work across the sector as careers leaders, career teachers, career advisers, career coaches and career managers. Many also work in employability and employer engagement. We welcome new members – you do not need to be qualified but must agree to work to the CDI's Code of Ethics.
3. The CDI is the custodian of the National Occupational Standards for Career Development and the UK Register of Career Development Professionals. Both career advisers and career leaders may join the Register, although only career advisers may give personal careers guidance.
4. The CDI runs both non-accredited and accredited courses, the latter through the CDI Academy. Our certificated courses include the CDI Certificate in Careers Leadership and CDI Certificate in Career Guidance Theory. From the autumn we will be offering the full level 6 qualification.

The CDI also delivers training for careers leaders as part of the 1500 free places offered through the Careers & Enterprise Company on behalf of the government.

5. Our reports, press releases and publications are available through our website - <http://www.thecdi.net/Reports---Resources>
6. For more information on the work of the Career Development Institute please visit our website www.thecdi.net or contact chief executive jan.ellis@thecdi.net