

Laboratory Technician



Qualification and Level

Intermediate Apprenticeship for Laboratory and Science Technicians – Level 2 **OR**
Advanced Apprenticeship for Laboratory and Science Technicians – Level 3

Why Laboratory Technical?

There is a demand across the country for skilled and qualified technicians, and employers increasingly need committed, well trained and enthusiastic workers.

By completing an Apprenticeship as a Laboratory Technician you will increase your skills, knowledge and performance, and become a valuable team member. This will demonstrate to an employer that you have gained the right knowledge and experience to help them in their business and encourage them to invest in you and your career.

Why York College?

York College offers a vibrant young adult environment with over 13,000 full and part-time learners, a friendly atmosphere, and support from specialist staff. We offer a wide range of academic and vocational qualifications at all levels, and work both with individuals and alongside local educational providers and businesses.

Our award-winning £60 million campus offers modern state-of-the-art teaching, learning and social facilities including: realistic training environments including the specialist Construction Crafts Centre at Osbaldwick on the northeast side of York; Learning Centre; hair and beauty spa; day nursery; cafés and food court; restaurant; sports development centre; theatre.

Are there any entry requirements?

To start the programme you must be employed in a laboratory setting within a company where your role will cover the range of work needed for the NVQ. The College may need to speak to your employer to ensure that the range and nature of their work will give you enough experience to complete the NVQ. Depending on the nature of your role we may need to look at developing subject specific assessors within your organisation to ensure the level of occupational competence within your individual role.

For the Intermediate Apprenticeship candidates should ideally have at least 4 GCSEs at grade D or above (or equivalent) including Mathematics, English and Science, Candidates could also have attempted a First Diploma (BTEC) in Applied Science alongside GCSEs (or equivalent) in Mathematics and English (grade D or above)

For the Advanced Apprenticeship candidates should ideally have at least 5 GCSEs at grade C or above (or equivalent) including Mathematics, English and Science, Candidates could also possess a First Diploma (BTEC) in Applied Science alongside GCSEs (or equivalent) in Mathematics and English (grade C or above)

What will I study?

The Intermediate Apprenticeship for Laboratory and Science Technicians framework consists of:

- Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Laboratory and Associated Technical Activities (Competence Qualification)
- Level 2 Certificate in Laboratory Technical Skills (Knowledge Qualification)
- Level 1 Functional Skills in English, Mathematics and ICT
- Employee Rights and Responsibilities (ERR)

The Advanced Apprenticeship for Laboratory and Science Technicians framework consists of:

- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Laboratory and Associated Technical Activities (Competence Qualification)
- Level 3 Certificate in Laboratory Technical Skills (Knowledge Qualification)
- Level 2 Functional Skills in English, Mathematics and ICT
- Employee Rights and Responsibilities (ERR)

You must complete or provide evidence for all of the qualifications in the framework. On occasion completion of particular GCSE courses within 5 years of starting the apprenticeship may mean you are exempt from certain aspects of the framework. You will receive a certificate for each qualification as you achieve it, and after you have achieved them all you will receive a certificate at the appropriate level for your Apprenticeship.

There are 4 related pathways available (three for the Advanced Apprenticeship) through the framework and the exact pathway to be followed will be decided in consultation with your employer. The only difference

between the pathways will be the content of the Level 2 or 3 NVQ course so all apprentices will follow the same knowledge qualification, functional skills components and ERR sections.

How will I be assessed?

The programme runs over a period of 18 months for the Intermediate and 2-3 years for the Advanced framework. You will complete the NVQ component of the course with your employer and will work at least 4 days per week on their site completing work for your job role. For one day of the week you will attend sessions to cover the knowledge and functional skills aspects of the apprenticeship this may involve attending York College, or the content may be delivered by York College staff at your workplace

For the NVQ you will build up a portfolio, which is a collection of examples or evidence of your work that demonstrates your skills and ability, including a work diary, photos, statements from your employer and colleagues and examples of completed tasks. Assessment consists of practical tasks, observations, oral questioning, written questions, assignments and projects.

The functional skills are assessed through written tests and portfolio.

What can I do next?

NVQ level 3 or 4 in Laboratory and Technical Activities

What alternatives are there?

Working within the laboratory context could restrict the alternative courses available. Where appropriate, employer sponsored degrees and bespoke training can be arranged.

How do I apply?

Fill in the Work Based Learning Application Form and send it to the Admissions Team at York College at the address below. We'll write to invite you to an interview and guidance session. Our programmes are popular and fill up quickly, so we advise you to apply as early as you can, even if you don't yet have a job.

Who can give me further information and advice?

Admissions Team

Your first point of contact about the application process.
York College, Sim Balk Lane, York YO23 2BB
01904 770449, admissions.team@yorkcollege.ac.uk

Employer Engagement Support Officers

Advice about Apprenticeships and finding a job.
York College, Sim Balk Lane, York YO23 2BB
01904 770445, apprenticeships@yorkcollege.ac.uk

Future Prospects

Advice about careers, Apprenticeships and other courses in the York area.
24 Swinegate, York YO1 8AZ
01904 634748, admin@futureprospects.org.uk, www.futureprospects.org.uk

Student Services

Confidential information, advice and signposting on a wide range of matters including accommodation, travel, childcare, welfare, benefits and financial assistance.
York College, Sim Balk Lane, York YO23 2BB
01904 770397, studentservices@yorkcollege.ac.uk

Apprenticeships Helpline and website

Information about Apprenticeships from the National Apprenticeship Service for students, parents and employers.
08000 150 600, www.apprenticeships.org.uk

York College is committed to creating an environment where there is mutual respect and equality of opportunity.

The information provided on the leaflet is correct at the time of going to print. Government updates may mean minor changes to the information provided, please check for changes before enrolling.