

LEVEL 6

ASSISTANT BUYER OR MERCHANDISER

WHAT DOES AN ASSISTANT BUYER OR MERCHANDISER DO?

This role exists primarily in retail organisations, but also in other sectors that manage products, goods or stock. The primary purpose of the role is to understand the brand and customer base in order to source, select maintain and deliver the right products to meet demand and business objectives. Buyers and merchandisers use data-driven forecasting, risk and opportunity analysis, commercial insight and creativity to anticipate and shape customer demands and market trends. Buyers focus on identifying and sourcing products or services, ensuring these are positioned effectively to customers. Merchandisers maximise sales and profitability by ensuring product availability in the right place, time and in the right quantities.



DURATION

24 months



SKILLS ENGLAND STANDARD & ASSESSMENT PLAN

L6 ABAM Standard



FUNDING

£10,000

WHAT NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO END-POINT ASSESSMENT?

Before entering Gateway, the apprentice must complete the following on-programme assessment requirements:

- Level 2 English and maths (if applicable)
- A Portfolio of Evidence
- A Project Proposal

WHAT ARE THE GATEWAY REQUIREMENTS?

The employer, training provider and apprentice make the decision to take the apprentice through Gateway. The apprentice must achieve all the required on-programme elements before they enter Gateway and are ready for End-Point Assessment.

END-POINT ASSESSMENT

There are two parts to this End-Point Assessment, which can be completed in any order.

1 WORK-BASED PROJECT INCLUDING A PRESENTATION WITH QUESTIONING

The Work-based Project is compiled after the apprentice has gone through Gateway, when a project proposal is submitted. The project should be completed within a maximum time of 13 weeks. Apprentices will prepare and deliver a presentation based on the project that appropriately covers the knowledge, skills and behaviours assigned to this assessment method. The presentation is followed by a Q&A session with questions prepared by the Independent End-Point Assessor (IEPA). The IEPA will ask questions relevant to the project, and grades this as Fail, Pass or Distinction.

2 PROFESSIONAL DISCUSSION

The Portfolio of Evidence, which is not directly assessed, provides a structure for the Professional Discussion. The apprentice must submit their Portfolio of Evidence to EFI Awards at Gateway. They should provide at least one piece of evidence for each of the minimum knowledge, skills and behaviours in the Assessment Plan. The Independent End-Point Assessor (IEPA) will ask questions relevant to the PoE, and grades this as Fail, Pass or Distinction.

GRADING



DISTINCTION

Distinction in all assessment methods



PASS

Pass in all assessment methods



FAIL

Fail within any of the assessment methods

COMPLETION AND CERTIFICATION

We'll activate certification once the apprentice has successfully completed all EPAs, and the IEPA/IQA has verified this. Working with the apprenticeship certificate issuing authority, we'll ensure the apprentice receives their certificate.

NEXT STEPS

Apprenticeships are funded up to and including Level 6, and there are plenty to choose from. For more information, get in touch with the EFI Awards team to discuss your options: info@efiawards.co.uk