

Component Specification

Assistive Technology

NFQ Level 6

6N2211

1. Component Details

Title	Assistive Technology
Teideal as Gaeilge	Teicneolaíocht Oiriúnaitheach
Award Class	Minor
Code	6N2211
Level	6
Credit Value	15
Purpose	The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to conduct an Assistive Technology Assessment.
Learning Outcomes	Learners will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Outline what is meant by Assistive Technology2 Recognise the benefits of using Assistive Technology3 Identify the funding streams available to people with disabilities4 Demonstrate knowledge of the assistive technologies commonly used by people in an educational setting5 Identify Hardware, Software, High-Tech and Low-Tech Assistive Technology6 Describe how technology can be adapted to make it more accessible for example Laptop

- 7 Examine common technologies used by people with disabilities in education
- 8 Identify the benefits offered by computer technology and explain the benefits for people with disabilities using technology in an educational setting
- 9 Outline the difference between Assistive Technology and Educational Technology
- 10 Identify common no-tech strategies used to maximise the inclusion of students with disabilities using Assistive Technology
- 11 Understand what is meant by an Assistive Technology Assessment and outline principles of good practice when conducting an assessment
- 12 Discuss the importance of Person Centred Assessments
- 13 Identify reasons for Assistive Technology abandonment
- 14 Outline the steps to ensure successful integration of Assistive Technology in the learning environment
- 15 Explain the importance of consulting with external agencies and identify the external agencies
- 16 Understand the key issues relating to current legislation
- 17 Produce a list of suppliers of Assistive Technology and Assistive Technology Information and Service providers
- 18 Examine the support services available to students at various levels in an educational setting
- 19 Conduct and Assistive Technology Assessment
- 20 Examine the challenges presented when conducting an Assistive Technology Assessment
- 21 Demonstrate an understanding of the application of best practice in an educational setting
- 22 Act as an advocate for a person with a disability when accessing or using Assistive Technology services
- 23 Critically analyse your own organisation in relation to the legislative requirements

24 Apply best practice in the workplace.

Assessment

General Information

Details of FET assessment requirements are set out in [Assessment Guidelines for Providers](#).

All FET assessment is criterion referenced. Successful achievement of the award is based on learners attaining the required standards of knowledge, skill or competence.

The techniques set out below are considered the optimum approach to assessment for this component. In exceptional circumstances providers may identify alternative assessment techniques through the provider's application for programme validation which are **reliable** and **valid** but which are more appropriate to their context.

Assessment of a number of components may be integrated across programmes for delivery, provided that the learning outcomes of each minor award are assessed.

Group or team work may form part of the assessment, provided each learner's achievement is separately assessed.

All providers are required to submit an assessment plan as part of their application for programme validation. Assessment Plans will include information relating to scheduling and integration of assessment. See current FET validation guidelines at www.qqi.ie.

Assessment Techniques

In order to demonstrate that they have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence identified in all the learning outcomes, learners are required to complete the assessment(s) below.

The assessor is responsible for devising assessment instruments (e.g. project and assignment briefs, examination papers), assessment criteria and mark sheets, consistent with the techniques identified below and FETAC's assessment requirements.

Programme validation will require providers to map each learning outcome to its associated assessment technique. See current FET validation guidelines at www.qqi.ie.

All learning outcomes **must** be assessed and achieved

Assignment

50%

	Learner Record	50%
Description	<p>Assignment</p> <p><i>An assignment is an exercise carried out in response to a brief with specific guidelines as to what should be included. An assignment is usually of short duration and may be carried out over a specified period of time.</i></p> <p>The assessor will devise two assignments at 25% each.</p> <p>Learner Record</p> <p><i>A learner record is the learner's self-reported and self-reflective record in which he/she describes specific learning experiences, activities, responses and skills acquired.</i></p>	
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	<p>Learners may be assessed on the basis of their prior knowledge and experience. Providers must be specifically quality assured to assess learners by this means. To do so they must complete B10, see Provider's Quality Assurance Guidelines and be included on the Register of RPL approved providers. See RPL Guidelines at www.fetac.ie for further information and registration details.</p>	
Grading	Pass	50% - 64%
	Merit	65% - 79%
	Distinction	80% - 100%
Specific Validation Requirements	<p>There are no specific validation requirements for this award</p>	
Supporting Documentation	<p>None</p>	
Access	<p>To access programmes leading to this award the learner should have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence associated with the preceding level of the National Framework of Qualifications. This may have been achieved through a formal qualification or through relevant life and work experience.</p>	
Transfer	<p>Successful completion of this component award enables the learner to transfer to programmes leading to other certificates where this component is a mandatory or an elective requirement.</p>	

2. FET Award Standards

QQI award standards are determined within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), <http://www.nfq-qqi.com>. QQI determines standards for the education and training awards that it makes itself and that are made by providers to whom it has delegated authority to make an award. Providers offering programmes leading to QQI awards **must** have their programme(s) validated in accordance with current validation policy (see www.qqi.ie).

Award standards are designed to be consistent with the NFQ's award classes i.e. major, special purpose, supplemental and minor awards. They are expressed in terms of **learning outcomes** i.e. concise statements of what the learner is expected to know or be able to do in order to achieve a particular award. Learning outcomes for FET awards are contained within the associated specifications:

AWARD CLASS	STANDARDS	AWARDS
Major Award	Certificate Specification	Certificate (Levels 1 to 5) Advanced Certificate (Level 6)
Supplemental Award	Supplemental Specification	Supplemental Certificate (Level 3 to 6)
Special Purpose	Specific Purpose Specification	Specific Purpose Certificate (Levels 3 to 6)
Minor Award	Component Specification	Component Certificate (Levels 1 to 6)

Award standards are thresholds, they describe standards of knowledge, skill or competence to be acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by a learner before an award may be made.

Award standards will be reviewed from time to time as necessary. Minor changes may be made by the QQI executive outside the review cycle where necessary. Changes to standards are published on QQI's website. Providers with validated programmes and providers with delegated authority to make awards are responsible for monitoring relevant standards and making necessary responses to changes.

3. FET Credit

Every FET certificate and component specification includes an FET credit value (Table 1). FET credit is quantified in multiples of 5 FET credits (up to 50 hours of learner effort). Learner effort is based on the time taken by typical learners at the level of the award to achieve the learning outcomes for the award. It includes all learning time involved including: guided learning hours, self-directed learning and assessment.

Table 1: FET Credit Values

NFQ Level	Major Awards Credit Values	Default Credit Values Minor Awards	Other Permitted Minor Award Credit Values	Special Purpose and Supplemental Award Credit Value Ranges
1	20	5	10	
2	30	5	10	
3	60	10	5,20	>5 and <60

4	90	10	5,15,20	>5 and <90
5	120	15	5,10,30	>5 and <120
6	120	15	5,10,30	>5 and <120

Guide to Level

Learning outcomes at this level include a comprehensive range of skills which may be vocationally-specific and/or of a general supervisory nature, and require detailed theoretical understanding. The outcomes also provide for a particular focus on learning skills. The outcomes relate to working in a generally autonomous way to assume design and/or management and/or administrative responsibilities. Occupations at this level would include higher craft, junior technician and supervisor.

Strand	Sub-strand	Nature of learning
Knowledge	Breadth	Specialised knowledge of a broad area
	Kind	Some theoretical concepts and abstract thinking, with significant underpinning theory
Know How & Skill	Range	Demonstrate a comprehensive range of specialised skills and tools
	Selectivity	Formulate responses to well defined abstract problems
Competence	Context	Act in a range of varied and specific contexts involving creative and non-routine activities; transfer and apply theoretical concepts and/or technical or creative skills to a range of contexts
	Role	Exercise substantial personal autonomy and often take responsibility for the work of others and/or for the allocation of resources; form and function within, multiple and complex heterogeneous groups.
	Learning to Learn	Learn to evaluate own learning and identify needs within a structured learning environment; assist others in identifying learning needs
	Insight	Express an internalised, personal world view, reflecting engagement with others.

Extract from 'Determinations for the Outline National Framework of Qualifications': NQAI