



Level 2 Award in

Retrofit Skills

Qualification Specification

Qualification Recognition Number: 610/4781/8

ABBE Qualification Code: AwardRSL224

September 2024

This document is copyright under the Berne Convention. All rights are reserved. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1998, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, electrical, chemical, mechanical, optical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the copyright owner. Enquiries should be addressed to Awarding Body for the Built Environment (ABBE).

Copyright © ABBE 2024



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

Contents

1. ABBE	4
1.1 Introduction	4
1.2 Mission Statement	4
1.3 Qualification Specification	4
1.4 Enquiries	4
2. Qualification Information	5
2.1 Qualification Purpose	5
2.2 Who could take this Qualification?	5
2.3 Qualification Number	5
2.4 Qualification Level	5
2.5 Total Qualification Time	5
2.6 Age ranges	5
2.7 Structure of the Qualification	5
2.8 Grading	6
3. Qualification Unit(s)	7



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

1. ABBE

1.1 Introduction

ABBE, the Awarding Body for the Built Environment, is a forward-thinking organisation that offers a range of qualifications, benefits and support.

ABBE is regulated by Ofqual for the delivery of a range of qualifications. Our qualifications are nationally recognised helping learners to achieve their full potential and ambitions.

The full range of qualifications can be found on our website at www.abbqa.co.uk

1.2 Mission Statement

Our Values - Quality through Standards: Our aim is to provide a high-quality experience by building a strong community of mutual support and trust. We can use our collective talents to build meaningful partnerships to help us all to achieve our goals. ABBE is a recognised Awarding Organisation with strong professional integrity.

Our Vision: Is that every learner is confident, successful and has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Our Mission: ABBE Educates, inspires and empowers learners

1.3 Qualification Specification

The aim of this specification is to provide learners and centres with information about the content of this qualification. This specification is a live document and, as such, will be updated when required.

1.4 Enquiries

Any enquiries relating to this qualification should be addressed to:

ABBE
Birmingham City University
University House
15 Bartholomew Row
Birmingham
B5 5JU

Tel: 0121 331 5174

Email: abbeenquiries@bcu.ac.uk

Website: www.abbqa.co.uk



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

2. Qualification Information

2.1 Qualification Purpose

The ABBE Level 2 Award in Retrofit Skills will equip the learner with the essential skills in energy-efficient construction for existing buildings. Learners will gain an understanding of the various elements to consider in sustainable retrofit as well as practical skills in energy-efficient methods of installation.

2.2 Who could take this Qualification?

This qualification is suitable for contractors, tradespeople and other industry professionals who wish to develop or improve their technical knowledge in achieving high quality outcomes in low carbon retrofit in the domestic sector. Prior construction experience is essential, but specific retrofit experience is not.

2.3 Qualification Number

ABBE Level 2 Award in Retrofit Skills: 610/4781/8

2.4 Qualification Level

This qualification has been listed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at: Level 2

2.5 Total Qualification Time

This qualification is allocated Total Qualification Time (TQT) this includes Guided Learning (GL) expressed in hours, which indicates the number of hours of supervised or directed study time and assessment. Credit has also been allocated to this qualification.

- The Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification is: 70 hours
- Guided Learning (GL) for this qualification is: 56 hours
- Credit Value: 7 credits

2.6 Age ranges

Pre 16	No
16-18	No
18+	No
19+	Yes

2.7 Structure of the Qualification

To achieve this qualification, learners must achieve 7 mandatory units.

Mandatory Unit(s)				
Unit No.	URN	Unit name	Level	Credit value
1	K/651/3287	Principles and Practical Application of Sustainable Retrofit	2	1
2	L/651/3288	Retrofit Process, Costing, Carbon Counting and Funding	2	1
3	M/651/3289	Essentials of Heat Loss, Moisture and Ventilation	2	1
4	Y/651/3290	Practical Retrofit Delivery Fabric, Services & Low Carbon Technologies	2	1



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

5	A/651/3291	Insulation and Airtightness	2	1
6	D/651/3292	Heat Pumps	2	1
7	F/651/3293	Ventilation	2	1

2.8 Grading

This qualification is: Pass/Fail.



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

3. Qualification Unit(s)

Unit 1 - Principles and Practical Application of Sustainable Retrofit

Unit reference Number: K/651/3287

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 8

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand why sustainable retrofit is necessary in the national context
2. Understand the key components of a 'sustainable retrofit'
3. Understand the concept of a 'whole-house retrofit' and how it may benefit homeowners



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

Unit 2 – Retrofit Process, Costing, Carbon Counting and Funding

Unit reference Number: L/651/3288

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 8

Learning objectives:

1. Know the stages of a good practice retrofit process and why they are important
2. Understand why costing and carbon counting are important metrics and what they are used for
3. Know costs for retrofit installations
4. Know where to find information about the latest retrofit funding for your clients



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

Unit 3 – Essentials of Heat Loss, Moisture and Ventilation

Unit reference Number: M/651/3289

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 8

Learning objectives:

1. Know how buildings lose and gain heat
2. Know how to reduce heat losses and manage heat gains
3. Know the principles of moisture failures in retrofit
4. Know the major moisture sources and movement mechanisms in houses
5. Understand how traditional buildings differ from new builds in terms of moisture management
6. Know essential retrofit rules to manage moisture risk
7. Know why ventilation is important in homes
8. Know the components of a ventilation system



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

Unit 4 – Practical Retrofit Delivery Fabric, Services & LC Technologies

Unit reference Number: Y/651/3290

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 8

Learning objectives:

1. Know good practice fabric retrofit
2. Know good practice service retrofit
3. Know good practice renewable technology installation



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

Unit 5 – Insulation & Airtightness

Unit reference Number: A/651/3291

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 8

Learning objectives:

1. Know about different types of insulation and their properties
2. Be able to install insulation to maximise its thermal performance
3. Know the components of basic retrofit wall, roof and floor build-ups
4. Be able to use appropriate products to create a continuous air barrier



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

Unit 6 – Heat Pumps

Unit reference Number: D/651/3292

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 8

Learning objectives:

1. Understand the differences between fossil fuel boilers, heat pumps and electric heating
2. Understand the main changes that a homeowner will experience when changing from a fossil fuel boiler to a heat pump
3. Know which heat pump systems are typically used in domestic retrofit and their component parts
4. Know about space and maintenance requirements for a monobloc heat pump system



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University

Unit 7 – Ventilation

Unit reference Number: F/651/3293

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 8

Learning objectives:

1. Understand which ventilation systems are most suitable for domestic retrofit and their component parts
2. Know about space and maintenance requirement for domestic retrofit ventilation systems
3. Be able to apply basic construction techniques for ventilation systems
4. Know what professionals are typically involved in installation of ventilation systems and when



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University



Head Office Address:

ABBE
Birmingham City University
University House
15 Bartholomew Row
Birmingham
B5 5JU

Contact:

Telephone: 0121 331 5174
Email: abbeenquiries@bcu.ac.uk
Website: www.abbeqa.co.uk



ABBE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Birmingham City University