

Specialist Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

Web Application Development Level 5

This document defines the additional subject -specific criteria required to quality assure for the **Level 5 Web Application Development** provision.

It must be read in addition to the Core EQA Role Profile.

Specialist Curriculum Scope

The EQA will quality assure provision leading to the following qualifications:

Gateway Qualifications Level 5 Web Application Development

These qualifications are typically characterised by:

- **Project-based and portfolio-based assessment models**
- Learner evidence comprising **functional web applications**, technical documentation and testing artefacts
- Emphasis on **full-stack development**, application architecture and deployment considerations
- Applied learning aligned to **industry-standard web development practices**

The EQA must have sufficient specialist knowledge to accurately evaluate technical content, assessment decisions, and qualification standards within this curriculum area.

Specialist Technical Knowledge

The EQA must demonstrate **current occupational understanding** of web application development, sufficient to judge learner evidence and the application of standards at **Level 5**.

This includes understanding of:

- **Full-stack web application development, including front-end and back-end integration.**
- **Server-side development using Python**, including:
 - Flask
 - Django
- **Front-end technologies**, including:
 - HTML and CSS
 - JavaScript
- **Database design and relational database systems**, including data modelling and integration with web applications.
- **User experience (UX) design principles**, including:

- User journeys
- User stories
- Use cases
- **Testing methodologies**, including functional testing, integration testing, and verification of code quality.
- **Version control practices**, including:
 - Git
 - GitHub
- **Technical documentation standards**, including the use of Markdown to communicate design decisions, setup instructions and usage guidance.

Specialist Assessment and Evaluation Skills

The EQA must be able to evaluate **technical, project-based portfolios of evidence**, which may include:

- Source code repositories for web applications
- Evidence of application design, development and testing activity
- Database schemas and integration documentation
- Documentation outlining user requirements, architecture and deployment
- Reflective or evaluative commentary on development decisions

The EQA must be able to judge whether learner evidence:

- Is **technically correct and functional**
- Demonstrates appropriate **depth and complexity expected at Level 5**
- Shows effective integration of front-end, back-end and data layers
- Meets **unit learning outcomes and assessment criteria** in full

Specialist Quality Risks and Indicators

In this curriculum area, the EQA should be alert to subject-specific risks such as:

- Superficial applications that appear complete but lack robust backend logic or data handling
- Poor separation of concerns between front-end, back-end and database layers
- Limited or ineffective testing evidence
- Inadequate or unclear technical documentation
- Over-reliance on frameworks or templates without evidence of learner understanding
- Inconsistent technical standards applied across projects or assessors

Specialist Professional Currency

The EQA must maintain **ongoing subject-specific CPD** to ensure continued credibility in web application development.

This may include updates in:

- Web development frameworks and libraries
- Web security practices
- Testing and deployment approaches

- Changes in development tooling and workflows
- Emerging best practice in full-stack web application design

Scope Clarification

This specialist template **does not restate**:

- Generic EQA or IQA competencies
- Quality assurance methodology or sampling practice
- Reporting, professional conduct or customer service expectations

These are fully covered in the **Core EQA Role Profile**.