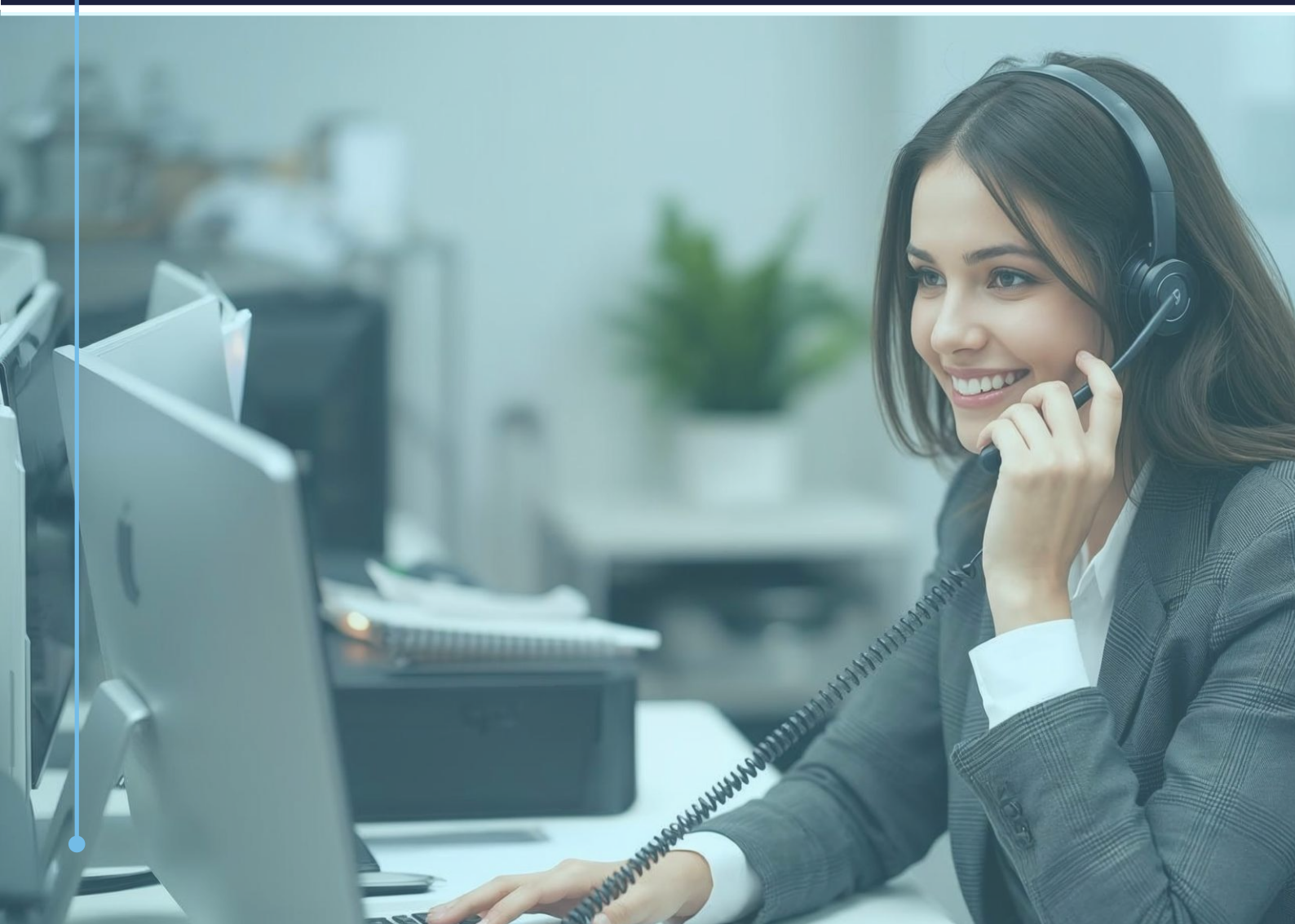




COURSE

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT TECHNICIAN LEVEL 3



KEY COURSE INFORMATION



DURATION

18 Months



LEVEL

3



SKILLS ENGLAND STANDARD REFERENCE NO.

ST0128



SKILLS ENGLAND LINK

[Software development technician / Skills England](#)



SKILLS FUNDING GROUP LINK

<https://www.skillsfundinggroup.com/funded-courses/>



FULL FUNDING VALUE

£15,000



5% Contribution (if applicable)

£750



TIME COMMITMENT

4 Hours per week working specifically on this course during working hours plus 2 hours employer led CPD



FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR

Upskilling Existing IT Staff and Recruitment of New Software Development Technicians



FUNDING TYPE

Advanced Apprenticeship



DELIVERY STYLE

121 Remote Video Calls and Online Peer Group Workshops

CANDIDATE PROGRESSION

AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE



Learners completing this programme can progress into junior developer or software support roles with increasing responsibility across software development activities.

Progression Opportunities

Candidates may progress into:

- ◆ Junior Software Developer
- ◆ Junior Web Developer
- ◆ Junior Application Developer
- ◆ Junior Programmer
- ◆ Application Support Analyst

Further Development

Many learners progress onto:

- ◆ Advancing programming language proficiency
- ◆ Strengthening knowledge of software development lifecycle practices
- ◆ Developing skills in automated testing and professional coding standards
- ◆ Completing recognised vendor certifications
- ◆ Undertaking advanced programming language training

Professional Readiness

Following completion, candidates will:

- ◆ Readiness to work effectively within software development teams
- ◆ Ability to follow defined requirements to deliver software components
- ◆ Capability to assist in testing and technical documentation activities
- ◆ Understanding of key development principles, coding practices and quality standards
- ◆ Clear communication of progress and technical information
- ◆ Ability to follow organisational coding standards and best practices
- ◆ Effective workload management and responsiveness to feedback
- ◆ Professional behaviours including responsibility, teamwork and resilience

EMPLOYER BENEFITS



Employers benefit from technically capable software support staff who contribute to software development tasks, improve code quality and assist with team delivery.

Employers benefit from staff who:

- ◆ Work effectively across the software development lifecycle
- ◆ Assist with coding, testing, documentation and quality assurance activities
- ◆ Deliver software components reliably and consistently
- ◆ Communicate progress clearly and flag issues promptly
- ◆ Follow organisational coding standards and security practices

This course provides:

- ◆ Structured, work-based development aligned to national occupational standards
- ◆ Practical experience in software coding and logic implementation
- ◆ Development of testing activities and technical documentation skills
- ◆ Real workplace task application to strengthen hands-on capability
- ◆ Embedded reflective practice and professional communication skills

Employers typically see:

- ◆ Improvements in development throughput and delivery efficiency
- ◆ Clearer adherence to coding standards and best practices
- ◆ Stronger testing coverage and validation activities
- ◆ Reduced error rates through improved testing support
- ◆ More robust and consistent documentation practices

The programme supports:

- ◆ Improved software development outcomes
- ◆ Enhanced testing and validation practices
- ◆ Stronger technical documentation standards

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Software Development Technician Level 3 apprenticeship develops the knowledge, skills and behaviours required to work effectively within software development teams and support delivery across the software lifecycle.

Learners explore key topics including understanding requirements, writing code to agreed standards, applying secure development practices, conducting unit and integration testing, and maintaining appropriate documentation. The programme emphasises practical, work-based application, enabling learners to apply skills directly to tools, languages and frameworks used in their role.

Through structured learning and real workplace activities, learners deepen their technical competence and build confidence in communicating with team members, reporting progress and contributing to delivery outcomes. By completion, individuals can assist with development tasks, improve software quality and support project delivery alongside more senior developers.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ◆ UK/EU Citizen for 3+ years
- ◆ Work 16+ hours per week on average
- ◆ Employed on a PAYE Scheme
- ◆ Not on any other government-funded course





WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR

Designed for learners entering software development support roles or existing staff seeking formalised competence in software development techniques.

This course is ideal for:

- ◆ Individuals working in or aspiring to join software development teams
- ◆ Learners supporting coding, testing or technical documentation tasks
- ◆ Those with basic technical awareness seeking to build practical development skills
- ◆ Individuals currently in support roles who wish to formalise and strengthen their capability
- ◆ New entrants to the profession aiming to build a strong foundation in software development

Typical Job Roles Include:

- ◆ Software Development Technician
- ◆ Junior Developer
- ◆ Junior Web Developer
- ◆ Junior Application Developer
- ◆ Junior Programmer
- ◆ Application Support Analyst

This course is suitable for employers operating in:

- ◆ Technology and Software Services
- ◆ Digital Product Teams
- ◆ Professional Services
- ◆ Financial Services Technology Functions
- ◆ Health and Care Technology Teams
- ◆ Education and Training Providers

Learning aligns with national occupational standards, supporting software delivery capability that strengthens team performance and technical outcomes.

KNOWLEDGE

On completion of the course, candidates will have knowledge of:

- ◆ Core software development principles including logic and structured design
- ◆ Coding fundamentals and programming best practices
- ◆ Secure development practices and security awareness
- ◆ Testing approaches and quality assurance methods
- ◆ Technical documentation standards and maintainability requirements
- ◆ Key stages of the software development lifecycle
- ◆ Organisational standards, compliance requirements and quality expectations
- ◆ The importance of reliability, maintainability and structured delivery within technical teams

SKILLS

Candidates will be able to:

- ◆ Writing code to specification and applying logical reasoning
- ◆ Conducting unit and integration testing
- ◆ Creating clear and maintainable technical documentation
- ◆ Following instructions and using development tools effectively
- ◆ Identifying issues and supporting resolution activities
- ◆ Communicating outcomes and progress with team members
- ◆ Interpreting and implementing project requirements
- ◆ Applying secure coding and development practices
- ◆ Adapting to changing project needs and priorities

BEHAVIOURS

Candidates will demonstrate the following core behaviours in their work:

- ◆ **Accountability** – taking responsibility for actions, coding quality, and delivery outcomes
- ◆ **Collaboration** – working effectively with colleagues and contributing to team goals
- ◆ **Resilience** – adapting to challenges and maintaining performance under pressure
- ◆ **Commitment to Quality** – ensuring software, testing, and documentation meet high standards
- ◆ **Communication** – engaging constructively with colleagues, reporting progress clearly and respectfully
- ◆ **Curiosity** – showing willingness to learn and improve technical skills
- ◆ **Adaptability** – responding positively to feedback and changing project requirements
- ◆ **Professional Conduct** – supporting consistent delivery and fostering positive team dynamics



DELIVERY MODEL

The delivery model combines personalised coaching, structured online workshops and practical workplace application.

1:1 Remote Video Calls

Learners also take part in one-to-one remote sessions via video call. These sessions are used to:

- ◆ Regular one-to-one remote sessions via video call, scheduled to suit both learner and employer
- ◆ Reviews of progress and reinforcement of technical capability
- ◆ Assessment of skills and support for reflective practice
- ◆ Tailored guidance linked to workplace projects
- ◆ Support to ensure off-the-job training requirements are met
- ◆ Personalised coaching to build confidence in software tasks
- ◆ Preparation for formal assessment and workplace contributions

Online Peer Group Workshops

Learners attend online peer group workshops alongside other apprentices. These sessions:

- ◆ Interactive online workshops with other apprentices
- ◆ Exploration of key areas of the apprenticeship standard
- ◆ Discussion of real development challenges and shared problem-solving
- ◆ Reinforcement of communication and collaborative working skills
- ◆ Practical application of technical concepts in a peer setting
- ◆ Exposure to shared insights, broadening understanding of development practices
- ◆ Strengthening confidence in applying skills in the workplace

ASSESSMENT

END POINT ASSESSMENT (EPA)

The End Point Assessment (EPA) is the final stage of the apprenticeship and independently evaluates whether the learner meets the national occupational standard for Software Development Technician Level 3. EPA ensures learners can apply their knowledge, skills and behaviours effectively in workplace contexts.

What the End Point Assessment Consists Of:

Learners complete a work-based project, which assesses:

Work-Based Project

- ◆ Application of technical knowledge and skills in real workplace tasks
- ◆ Writing, testing, and delivering software components
- ◆ Following organisational coding standards and documentation practices
- ◆ Supporting evidence such as code samples, test logs, reports, and stakeholder feedback



Professional Discussion

Learners participate in a structured discussion with an independent assessor to:

- ◆ Demonstrate underpinning knowledge of software development principles
- ◆ Reflect on their practical application, decision-making, and problem-solving
- ◆ Evidence professional behavior's including accountability, collaboration, and resilience
- ◆ Show understanding of quality standards, secure practices, and organisational expectations

How the End Point Assessment Is Completed

The End Point Assessment (EPA) is conducted by an approved independent assessment organisation (EPAO) and includes:

- ◆ Completion of gateway requirements before assessment
- ◆ Execution of a work-based project in the workplace to ensure relevance and authenticity
- ◆ Participation in a professional discussion, which may be conducted remotely
- ◆ Demonstration of applied knowledge, skills, and professional behaviours in real work contexts
- ◆ Confirmation of achievement of the Level 3 apprenticeship and occupational competence upon successful completion

CONTACT INFORMATION & USEFUL LINKS

PREPARATION AND SUPPORT

Throughout the programme, learners are supported to:

- ◆ Build evidence of competence
- ◆ Prepare for assessment requirements
- ◆ Understand what to expect at EPA

This ensures apprentices approach the End Point Assessment with confidence and clarity.

GENERAL ENQUIRIES ABOUT COURSE OR FUNDING

 01174 635063

 info@skillsfundinggroup.com

Skills England Technical Information:



Software Development Technician Level 3
– Skills England Standard

[Software development technician / Skills England](#)

Setting Up Online Digital Account:



Create an Apprenticeship Service Account
(Employers)

<https://www.skillsfundinggroup.com/digital-account>

Applying for Apprenticeship Levy Transfer:



Receive or Transfer Levy Funds – GOV.UK
Guidance

<https://www.skillsfundinggroup.com/levy-transfer/>

Enrol on this Course



Enrolment For This Course:

<https://www.skillsfundinggroup.com/enrolment>

Book a Video Call



To book a video call about this course;

<https://www.skillsfundinggroup.com/start-the-conversation/>