



Occupation codes of practice for Tier 2

This section has the codes of practice for skilled occupations under Tier 2 of the points-based system. The information on related job titles and examples of job tasks is taken from Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) 2000 and may not be fully up-to-date.

Section D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

This page gives the SOC codes for the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sector.

Choose the SOC code that is most relevant to the job you are looking to fill, and then you will be taken to a page giving you more information on the skill level, appropriate salary rate and how to meet the resident labour market test.

Appropriate salary rates are based on a 37½ hour working week, unless otherwise stated. Salaries should be pro-rated for other working patterns.

From 31 March 2009 all jobs in this sector **must** be advertised in Jobcentre Plus (or JobCentre Online for jobs in Northern Ireland) and **at least one other** listed method to pass the resident labour market test.

1. Skilled jobs

No occupations in this sector are classed as skilled.

2. Borderline jobs

The following occupations are borderline. This means that some jobs in each occupation are at NVQ or SVQ level 3 or above, and some jobs are below this level. The codes of practice explain which jobs in each occupation are at NVQ or SVQ level 3 or above, and which sponsors can issue certificates of sponsorship for. Sponsors cannot issue certificates of sponsorship for any other jobs in these occupations:

SOC Code	SOC code description	Related job titles	Examples of job tasks
5241	Electricians, electrical fitters	Electrical contractor Electrical fitter Electrician Maintenance electrician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> examines drawings, specifications and wiring diagrams to determine the method and sequence of operations selects, cuts and lays wires and connects to sockets, plugs or terminals by crimping, soldering, brazing or bolting

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cuts, bends and installs electrical conduit • assembles parts and sub-assemblies using hand tools and by brazing, riveting or welding • installs electrical plant, machinery and other electrical fixtures and appliances such as fuse boxes, generators, light sockets etc • examines electrical plant or machinery, domestic appliances and other electrical assembly for faults using test equipment and replaces worn parts and faulty wiring
5243	Lines repairers and cable jointers	Cable jointer Cable repairer (electric) Overhead linesman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assists with the erection of wood poles or steel towers to carry overhead lines • removes protective sheath from cables, joins conductor wires by brazing, soldering or crimping and applies conductor insulation and protective coverings • connects and installs transformers, fuse gear, lightning arrestors, aircraft warning lights, cable boxes and other equipment • connects cables to test equipment and tests for balance, resistance, insulation and any defects • locates and repairs faults to lines and ancillary equipment
8124	Energy plant operatives	Auxiliary plant attendant Boiler attendant Boiler operator Stoker Substation attendant (<i>electricity supplier</i>) Unit operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determines job requirements from switchboard attendant or operating instructions • opens valves and operates controls to regulate the flow of fuel to boiler or generating equipment • operates remote control panel to load fuel and remove discharged fuel elements from nuclear reactors • adjusts controls to maintain correct running speed of turbine or generator and monitors temperature and pressure controls on boilers • records instrument readings periodically and shuts down turbine/generator or boiler as demand decreases • carries out minor maintenance tasks and prescribed tests and reports any faults

3. Lower-skilled jobs

No occupations in this sector are classed as lower-skilled.

5241 Electricians, electrical fitters

This page explains the skill level and appropriate salary rate for electricians and electrical fitters, and tells you how to meet the resident labour market test.

1. Skill level

The following jobs in this occupation code are **at or above** NVQ or SVQ level 3:

- Electricians, as defined by the joint industry board (JIB) or the Scottish joint industry board (SJIB) grading definitions
- Approved electricians, as defined by the JIB / SJIB grading definitions
- Technicians, as defined by the JIB / SJIB grading definitions

Employers can view the [JIB](#) / [SJIB](#) grading definitions to assess which level a job is equivalent to (external links, open in new window).

The following jobs in this occupation code are **below** NVQ or SVQ level 3:

England, Wales and Northern Ireland:

- Electrical improvers, as defined by the JIB grading definitions
- Apprentice electricians

Scotland:

- Apprentice – 3rd stage and below, as defined by the SJIB grading definitions
- Adult trainee – 3rd stage and below, as defined by the SJIB grading definitions

2. Appropriate salary rate

The job must be paid the minimum salary below, which is derived either from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) or, where alternative salary data is available, from an alternative code of practice.

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: No
Other code of practice: Yes

Minimum rates:

London

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| • Electrician (or equivalent specialist grade) | £13.28 per hour |
| • Approved electrician (or equivalent specialist grade) | £14.49 per hour |
| • Technician (or equivalent specialist grade) | £16.41 per hour |

Elsewhere in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

• Electrician (or equivalent specialist grade)	£11.86 per hour
• Approved electrician (or equivalent specialist grade)	£12.94 per hour
• Technician (or equivalent specialist grade)	£14.65 per hour

Scotland

• Electrician (or equivalent specialist grade)	£10.93 per hour
• Approved electrician (or equivalent specialist grade)	£12.00 per hour
• Technician (or equivalent specialist grade)	£13.70 per hour

[Sources: JIB national standard rate 2009, SJIB National Wage Rates 2009]

3. Resident labour market test

Jobcentre Plus (or JobCentre Online for jobs in Northern Ireland): Yes

National newspapers: Yes

Professional journals: Yes, in the following publication:

- Electrical and Mechanical Contractor

Milkround: No

Internet: Yes, on any one of the following websites:

- www.emconline.co.uk
- www.reed.co.uk
- www.totaljobs.com
- www.monster.co.uk
- www.jobserve.com
- www.jobsite.co.uk
- www.fish4.co.uk/iad/jobs
- jobs.guardian.co.uk
- jobs.independent.co.uk
- jobs.telegraph.co.uk
- jobs.timesonline.co.uk

Head-hunters (without national advertising): No

You can use recruitment agencies and head-hunters to help you. The agency or headhunter may carry out a resident labour market test on your behalf, as specified in this code of practice.

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5243 Lines repairers and cable jointers

This page explains the skill level and appropriate salary rate for lines repairers and cable jointers, and tells you how to meet the resident labour market test.

1. Skill level

The following jobs in this occupation code are **at or above** NVQ or SVQ level 3:

- LE1-equivalent line workers and cable jointers (Chargehands or Leadhands)

The following jobs in this occupation code are **below** NVQ or SVQ level 3:

- Support workers
- Apprentice line workers and cable jointers

2. Appropriate salary rate

The job must be paid the minimum salary below, which is derived either from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) or, where alternative salary data is available, from an alternative code of practice.

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: Yes

Other code of practice: No

Minimum rate: £12.33 per hour

3. Shortage occupation details

Only the following job in this occupation code is currently on the United Kingdom shortage occupation list:

- Electricity transmission overhead lineworker

A resident labour market test is not mandatory for shortage occupations.

All other jobs in this occupation code are not currently on the shortage occupation list and a resident labour market test may be required.

4. Resident labour market test

Jobcentre Plus (or JobCentre Online for jobs in Northern Ireland): Yes

National newspapers: Yes

Professional journals: Yes, in the following publication:

- Utility week

Milkround: No

Internet: Yes, on any one of the following websites:

- www.utilityjobsearch.com
- www.justutilities.net
- www.reed.co.uk
- www.totaljobs.com
- www.monster.co.uk
- www.jobserve.com
- www.jobsite.co.uk
- www.fish4.co.uk/iad/jobs
- jobs.guardian.co.uk
- jobs.independent.co.uk
- jobs.telegraph.co.uk
- jobs.timesonline.co.uk

Head-hunters (without national advertising): No

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8124 Energy plant operatives

This page explains the skill level and appropriate salary rate for energy plant operatives, and tells you how to meet the resident labour market test.

1. Skill level

This occupation code is classed as **borderline**.

We will provide more information at a later date on which jobs in this occupation are above NVQ or SVQ level 3, and on which jobs are below this level. In the meantime, all jobs will be assumed to be above NVQ or SVQ level 3 where the migrant you wish to sponsor scores enough points to enter under the skilled migrant tier. You should check this page again for updates before issuing any certificates of sponsorship.

2. Appropriate salary rate

The job must be paid the minimum salary below, which is derived either from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) or, where alternative salary data is available, from an alternative code of practice.

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings:	Yes
Other code of practice:	No
Minimum rate:	£9.69 per hour

3. Resident labour market test

Jobcentre Plus (or JobCentre Online for jobs in Northern Ireland): Yes

National newspapers:	Yes
Professional journals:	No
Milkround:	No
Internet:	Yes, on any one of the following websites: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• www.reed.co.uk• www.totaljobs.com• www.monster.co.uk• www.jobserve.com• www.jobsite.co.uk• www.fish4.co.uk/iad/jobs• jobs.guardian.co.uk

- jobs.independent.co.uk
- jobs.telegraph.co.uk
- jobs.timesonline.co.uk

Head-hunters (without national advertising): No

You can use recruitment agencies and head-hunters to help you. The agency or headhunter may carry out a resident labour market test on your behalf, as specified in this code of practice.

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