

End-point assessment for technical science and engineering apprenticeships

# Introducing **SIAS**



SIAS is the leading End-Point Assessment Organisation (EPAO) for the technical science and engineering apprenticeship sectors. Ofqual approved, our innovative and quality focused End-Point Assessment (EPA) approach is driven by our obsession for delivering real value to our customers through a non-transactional, partnership-centred model.

We were created in 2015 by industry for industry, and we retain a deep and trusted connection with our sector employers. Our strong social mission, to support industry and the future STEM skills agenda, remains central and paramount to our vision and approach.

Our stakeholders are at the very heart of all that we do, so delivering a best-in-class level of bespoke support and experience to you our employer and provider partners ensures that your apprentices can always achieve their full potential.

We have a high performing team with vast experience within the science, engineering and educational sectors. This assures a superb level of technical quality and professionalism across all aspects of our service and is one reason why we consistently maintain a 90% plus first-time achievement rate across all standards we assess.

From start-point to end-point we help apprentices achieve their potential. We're leading the way with an innovative and collaborative approach to EPA service delivery for the 21st century.

We believe passionately that endpoint assessment doesn't begin at gateway, it starts when apprentices start on programme. We pride ourselves on delivering end-to-end solutions and value right across the learner journey from registration through to gateway, assessment and certification.

At SIAS we love that we are positively disrupting the traditional end-point assessment blueprint and working with our stakeholders creatively to deliver maximum positive impact as the go-to EPAO for STEM apprenticeships nationally!

I'm looking forward to working together with you as we drive forward a fresh approach to endpoint assessment.

**Steve Smith Managing Director** 

# Why work with **SIAS**?

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reasons why we know you'll want to work with SIAS

#### We are the trusted Leader for STEM EPA services.

Created by industry for industry, we are the leading end-point assessment organisation for technical science and engineering apprenticeship standards nationally. With an unrivalled track record of success since our inception in 2015, we are trusted by the country's leading STEM sector brands and employers to deliver to them the very best in End-Point Assessment (EPA) solutions on time, every time.

#### We like to be different!

We pride ourselves on being a positive disruptor in the world of EPA. We are jailbreaking the traditional approach, setting ourselves apart from the rest – whether that's through being non-transactional and values driven, or to believing that EPA begins at the start of the learner journey not just at gateway, or in being passionate about delighting our customers through creating value for them all of the time. We know we are different... and that's a good thing!

## We put customers and partnerships at the heart of everything we do.

We are obsessed about creating real value for our customers through being truly partnership driven and by committing to investing in our relationship with you. We will understand and align to your opportunities and challenges to ensure that we work with you in a bespoke and agile way to create optimum positive impact for both your organisation and your apprentices.

## We provide a truly end-to-end support model, giving you consistent access to the very best specialist EPA and technical support teams.

From start to finish of the learning journey our dedicated teams will work proactively with you to support your requirements. We pride ourselves on delivering end-to-end solutions from registration through to gateway, assessment and certification.

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#### We are Ofqual approved.

As an Ofqual recognised and regulated EPAO we have quality and continuous improvement embedded throughout our DNA which gives the extra confidence and reassurance you want and need in an EPAO partner.

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## We support apprentices achieve and progress.

With an average 93% first time achievement rate across all the standards we assess, we know we are really supporting your apprentices to maximise their potential and catapult themselves into meaningful careers!

## We have a highly experienced assessor team.

Our end-point assessors are experienced professionals and technical experts drawn from across industry. They are always focused on providing a positive experience for your apprentices, making them feel at ease so they can perform their best on the day. They also provide structured feedback which we know is something really valued by you and apprentices post assessment.

We are the leading end-point assessment organisation for technical science and engineering apprenticeship standards nationally

# Four standards

We're delivering end-point assessments across a range of science and engineering apprenticeship standards.



TO FIND OUT MORE **ABOUT OUR STANDARDS VISIT OUR WEBSITE** 

## What our clients are saying...

SIAS are game-changers in end-point assessment and my experience of working with them is massively different to other EPA's.

Their guidance, such as the Cell Trackers and C Trackers, is fantastic. It's well resourced, good quality and EPA Pro is really easy to use.

The key difference for us, and why we choose to work with SIAS, is the level of support. From the day-to-day account management through to the Managing Director personally coming to see us it really feels like a partnership. The team is also highly experienced from across the STEM sector, so they know and understand what we and our employers need."

#### Andrew Atkin

Director: Quality & Apprenticeship Delivery, Warrington and Vale Royal College

#### GSK has partnered with SIAS since the

commencement of End Point Assessment following the government apprenticeship reforms. The defining experience that we see is the massive step change that SIAS has undertaken to the point where the EPA process and support now offered has developed across a range of standards that GSK offers our apprentices. It would be fair to say that where we are now, with the support and communication from SIAS, is a significantly enhanced experience for the apprentices and GSK.

Tim Buchanan, Apprenticeship Levy Lead, Global Supply Chain, GSK CATCH chose to work with SIAS as there are many synergies between our organisations. CATCH is a specialist industrial membership and training organisation for the process industry sector, with over 120 apprentices based in the science industries, making it a logical choice to partner with SIAS as our End Point Assessment Organisation given their roots in the Science industry.

SIAS's employer led approach to EPA, integrating into the delivery plan with the apprenticeship provider, employer and learner, was something that appealed to me greatly rather than EPA being seen as a separate part to complete an apprenticeship.

Steve and his team are extremely competent and provide us with a first-class service to ensure that everyone is aware of their commitments around EPA. This includes registering our learners for EPA at the start of their apprenticeship and holding employer workshops in the first 6 months to help them understand what is required of them to guide them through the process.

Our partnership with SIAS ensures our apprentices have best possible experience as part of their journey from enrolment through to End Point Assessment.

James McIntosh Chief Operating Officer, CATCH

# What you can **expect from us**

SIAS is committed to working with our partners to deliver fair, valid, and reliable end-point assessment across the standards we offer and to give your apprentices a robust start to their chosen career. If you choose to work with us here are the ways we will work together, to help your apprentices succeed:

- Monthly EPA Planning, Support & Engagement meetings with your designated EPA Relationship Co-ordinator will enable you to keep apprentices on track end-to-end across learner journey's.
- Your dedicated relationship manager will always work closely with you to ensure you get the support you need, when you need it.
- We'll stand with you shoulder-to-shoulder at employer engagement events to support your offer to employers.
- We'll also provide you with up-stream intelligence and support around all route review and trailblazer activity on any standards in scope to ensure a smooth and seamless transition onto any potential revised or replacement standards.
- You will have access to an annual schedule of interactive technical workshops to breakdown each end-point assessment for each standard.



- The apprentice will be registered, monitored and will be able to access their achievement through our EPA platform.
- We will provide a bespoke competence evaluation log and competence tracker at the point of registration to allow you to monitor your apprentices' progress directly against the standard, providing high levels of confidence as the learning progresses.
- Full resources and support materials, including mock assessments, are available for every standard.
- An end point assessor will be allocated to your apprentice 3 months before the confirmed EPA date, giving greater flexibility to meet the EPA dates requested.
- We will deliver a guick and efficient turnaround on EPA results and post assessment feedback.



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