



# HOW TO BECOME AN ELECTRICIAN

WORKING AS AN  
**ELECTRICIAN**  
CAN BE AN  
INTERESTING  
AND REWARDING  
**CAREER**

THIS LEAFLET  
CONTAINS  
**USEFUL**  
INFORMATION  
TO HELP GET  
YOU STARTED

## USEFUL SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

- Time management
- Technical ability
- Ability to problem solve
- Good communication skills
- Attention to detail
- Dependability

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry requirements for courses/apprenticeships can change. Always contact the college, university, or training provider to check exactly what you'll need.

To enter the Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust (SECTT) apprenticeship programme you will need to pass the SECTT Pre-Employment Assessment and have an Electrical Apprenticeship placement with an employer.

If recruited by an employer before year one you will undertake the first year at college. Entry to the Modern Apprenticeship can take place at any point during study, if you attend college as a student and then gain employment, you will enter the apprenticeship at year 2.

To study at college, you will need to complete a successful interview. Entry standards and the education and training pathway for both apprenticeship routes can be found overleaf.

## HELPFUL TO HAVE

Qualifications that show understanding and experience of the industry such as Skills for Work: Engineering, Access to Construction and Engineering (ACE) SCQF 4 or Employability Programme in Construction (EPIC) SCQF 5.



## QUALIFICATIONS

An Apprenticeship leading to a relevant Scottish Vocational Qualification in Electrical Manufacture, Electrical Maintenance or Electrical Installation (SVQ Level 3).

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

*Depending on the apprenticeship programme you follow you will need:*

- Normal colour vision and to pass a colour vision assessment, to work with electrical wiring.
- A Scottish Joint Industry Board card (SJIB card) to train and work in this job.
- A Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card or equivalent and pass a health and safety test to train or work on construction sites.

## DAY-TO-DAY TASKS

*In your day-to-day tasks you may be required to:*

- Fit and repair electrical circuits and wiring
- Follow technical drawings, building plans and wiring diagrams
- Make sure that electrotechnical systems work
- Find and fix faults in the systems
- Install and maintain electrical equipment, instruments and machinery



## DISCIPLINES

*Work will depend on what type of electrician you are, for example:*

- Installation – install systems & data networks
- Maintenance – check electrical systems
- Electrotechnical Panel Builder – make and install control panels
- Machine Repair & Rewind Electrician – maintain motors and transformers
- Highway Systems – install and maintain street lighting and traffic management systems

## WORKING ENVIRONMENT

You may be required to work outdoors, at height and in confined spaces

## HOW MUCH CAN I EARN?

£18k – £42k. Average Salary £34,320.

## SECTORS

*Electricians are required in many industries, including:*

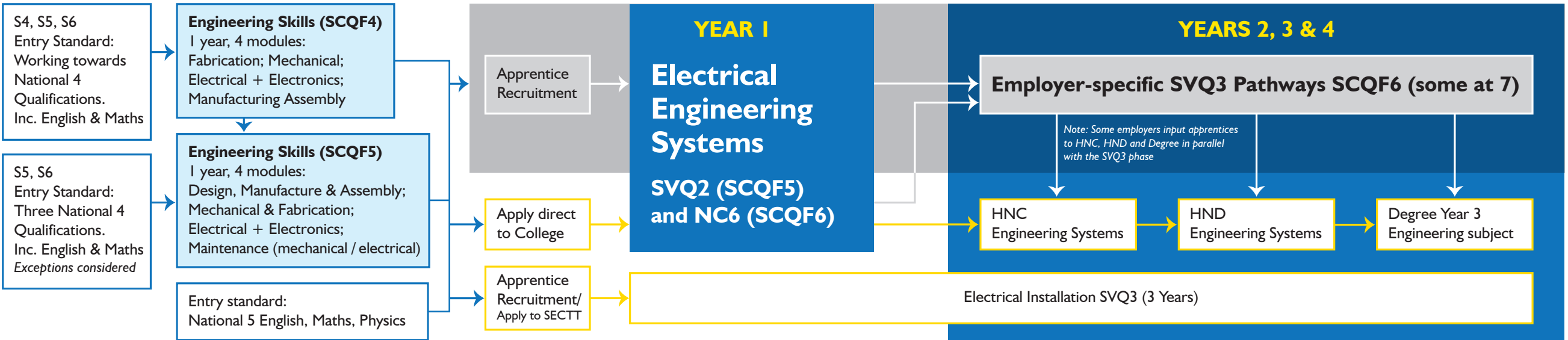
- Power Distribution
- Domestic/Business Installation
- Nuclear and Renewables





# YOUR EDUCATION & TRAINING ROUTE

START YOUR CAREER AS AN ELECTRICIAN WITH NORTH HIGHLAND COLLEGE UHI TODAY



# HOW TO BECOME AN ELECTRICIAN

## FROM CAITHNESS TO AZERBAIJAN

HOW A CAREER AS AN ELECTRICIAN HAS OFFERED ROSS MURRAY WORLD-WIDE OPPORTUNITIES

**I was born and raised in the north of Scotland but nowadays I work and live in Baku, Azerbaijan, where I am employed as a Project Engineer by a major oil and gas company.**

My career as an Electrician began after leaving Farr High School at the age of 16 when I enrolled on the National Certificate (NC) in Multidisciplinary Engineering at North Highland College UHI. The course gave me both a practical grounding and an insight into the Engineering & Design process. I enjoyed the course and successful completion allowed me to apply, and be accepted, as an Apprentice Electrician with local company, JGC Engineering. As with the majority of apprenticeships in the UK, this was structured over a four year period with 'block release' to the college and working

on-site; four weeks on site and four weeks on campus which we all enjoyed as we could apply the theory we were learning on site. On successful completion of my apprenticeship, gaining an SVQ 3 in Electrical

**I was given the opportunity to work offshore in the Oil and Gas industry**

Installation and Commissioning / Tradesman certificate, I was given the opportunity to work offshore in the Oil and Gas industry with specialist electrical company, Dron & Dickson.

Electricians from the North Highlands have always had a good reputation in the North Sea Oil and Gas Industry. This, alongside hard work and dedication, aided me in promoting to Electrical Charge-Hand, Electrical Supervisor and working on projects in the Aberdeen office. Advancing in an engineering company without relevant academic qualifications is rarely possible, so, while working in Aberdeen I applied to North Highland College UHI and went on to complete a BEng in Electrical Engineering Systems. During this period of study, I also worked for AMEC as an Electrical and Instrument Field Engineer on one of the biggest projects in the North Sea. Completing my disciplinary degree has since led to studying for an MSc in Project Management through Robert Gordon University and this, alongside the work

experience I have gained, has given me the opportunity to work on projects all over the world and enjoy the opportunities the expatriate lifestyle can bring. My current role has taken me and my family to Baku, Azerbaijan where I have a key role in

**Being an electrician is a rewarding and varied job**

organising and planning the shutdown of BP assets in the Caspian Sea. Utilising all my skills, qualifications, opportunities and development over the years, has led me to be a shared Director in my own

Engineering, Procurement & Construction company, Curocon Ltd; which is committed to helping achieve the UK's carbon emission plan and work to a carbon neutral footprint by 2050 by 'Engineering Responsibly'. I am very thankful that I chose an electrical apprenticeship with North Highland College UHI. Being an electrician is a rewarding and varied job and offers many opportunities, both at home and abroad.

*Ross Murray*

**Project Engineer and Director  
Curocon Ltd**

Ross Murray



## INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

More information can be found by visiting the following websites:

DYW North Highlands  
[dywnh.info](http://dywnh.info)

My World of Work  
[myworldofwork.co.uk](http://myworldofwork.co.uk)

North Highland College  
[northhighland.uhi.ac.uk](http://northhighland.uhi.ac.uk)

Scottish Electrical Charitable Training Trust  
[sectt.org.uk](http://sectt.org.uk)

Apprenticeships.Scot  
[apprenticeships.scot](http://apprenticeships.scot)

Construction Skills Certification Scheme  
[cscs.uk.com](http://cscs.uk.com)

Scottish Joint Industry Board  
[sjib.org.uk](http://sjib.org.uk)

All details correct at time of printing.  
For updated course information visit:  
[northhighland.uhi.ac.uk](http://northhighland.uhi.ac.uk)