

## Standard Specification Information

<b>Standard Name</b>	Improvement Leader
<b>ST and AP Number</b>	ST0556/V1.0
<b>Link to AP</b>	<a href="https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/media/6043/st0556_improvement_leader_l6_epa-plan_13042022.pdf">https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/media/6043/st0556_improvement_leader_l6_epa-plan_13042022.pdf</a>
<b>Level</b>	6
<b>Typical on programme duration</b>	Typically, 14-18 months
<b>EPA Period</b>	20 weeks
<b>Pathways</b>	N/A
<b>Assessment Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional discussion, underpinned by Portfolio of Evidence</li> <li>Dissertation, Presentation, and questioning</li> </ul>
<b>Gateway Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Apprentice has completed the relevant apprenticeship duration</li> <li>Level 2 English and Maths</li> <li>Portfolio of Evidence and Mapping Document</li> <li>Gateway and EPA Planning form</li> <li>Dissertation Title, Scope, and Rationale</li> </ul>
<b>Apprenticeship Entry Requirements</b>	There are no specific entry requirements.
<b>Occupational Profile</b>	Improvement Leaders are responsible for developing improvement strategy, providing leadership in improvement for the business and for coaching and supporting Improvement Specialists in advanced analysis. The Improvement Leader typically reports to Board members or Heads of Department and manages (directly and/or matrix) a team of Improvement Specialists, who deploy the strategy, and lead improvement projects. They work closely with all functions of the business to support the setting and achievement of business goals, often accountable for Improvement activities within the largest-scale and highest priority programmes of work. Improvement Leaders have high-level expertise in Lean, Six Sigma, Project and Change management and are recognised as the specialists in leading improvement strategy.
<b>Summary of Assessment methods</b>	<p><b>Professional Discussion</b> The Professional Discussion is a structured discussion between the apprentice and the IA and in the presence of a technical expert from the apprentice's employer. The Professional Discussion is based on a Portfolio of Evidence compiled by the apprentice throughout the on-programme period. The Professional Discussion must last 2-hours to 2-hours 20 minutes in duration. The IA will ask open/competency based questions relating to the Portfolio of Evidence. Apprentices may refer to their Portfolio of Evidence when answering questions.</p> <p><b>Dissertation, Presentation and Questioning</b> The Apprentice must produce a dissertation during the EPA period, which will be the basis of a presentation to the IA and a technical expert from the apprentice's employer, with follow up questioning immediately after the presentation. Apprentices can refer to their dissertation and/or presentation materials when answering the questions. The dissertation must focus on the development and deployment of improvement strategy in their business. The main body of the dissertation must be 4,000 to 4,500 words including a summary and appendices which is in addition to the word count. The presentation must outline the focus of the dissertation, approach, outcomes, and evaluation. The presentation must be for a time duration of 45 to 50 minutes followed by questioning lasting a further 35 to 40 minutes in duration.</p>



<b>Overall Grading</b>	The overall grade for Improvement Leader EPA is Fail, Pass, Merit and Distinction.
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