



## **National Occupational Standards**

<b>Sector</b>	Building & Construction
<b>Job Family</b>	Plastering
<b>Job Title</b>	Plasterer
<b>MQF</b>	Level 3

### **Mandatory Competences**

<b>APL: 301</b>	Apply Occupational Health and Safety and Working Practices
<b>APL: 302</b>	Identify Systems, Equipment and Components
<b>APL: 303</b>	Calculating, Positioning and Drawing
<b>APL: 304</b>	Identifying and Applying Systems, Equipment and Components

## APL: 301

### Apply Occupational Health and Safety and Working Practices

<p><b>Description of Unit</b></p>	<p>This unit is about being able to use safe procedures and safe work practices. The persons carrying out this work must possess the necessary knowledge and skills to ensure that their actions do not create health and safety risks to others, identify risks and hazards associated with the working environment, tools and equipment and materials and substances used.</p>
<p><b>Performance Criteria</b></p>	<p>The candidate must have the necessary knowledge and skills to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Carry out safe working practices to prevent hazards and to ensure the safety of workers and members of the public.</li> <li>2. Carry out safe working practices using appropriate equipment and materials to prevent damages to work areas.</li> <li>3. Carry out the safe erection, use and dismantling of simple scaffold platforms less than 2m high.</li> <li>4. Set up safety barriers around a work environment hazard to protect workers and members of the public.</li> <li>5. Use protective clothing and safety equipment to accomplish tasks.</li> <li>6. Use and store materials hazardous to health in a safe manner.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Required Knowledge</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understands the roles and responsibilities of themselves and others under the Health and Safety Act.</li> <li>2. Describe Legal notice 281 of 2004 main scope and individual legal responsibilities.</li> <li>3. Work according to health and safety regulations and other relevant regulations that might apply to particular working site.</li> <li>4. Knows the health and safety risks associated with their role which include tools, materials and equipment used and working practices and procedures.</li> <li>5. Recognises potential hazardous material at the workplace.</li> </ol>

**Required  
 Knowledge**

6. Understands the procedures for dealing with potential hazardous material in the place of work.
7. Understands health concerns associated with the workplace and safe practices when carrying out work.
8. Seeks expert assistance when help is needed.
9. Acknowledges hazards and potential hazards at the place of work (such as electricity, slippery and uneven surfaces, dust and fumes, handling and transporting, contaminants and irritants, fire, heights, improper use of tools and equipment).
10. Understands the importance of being alert to the presence of hazards in the place of work.
11. Knows the responsible persons to whom to report health and safety matters.
12. Knows the emergency procedures in the place of work.
13. Knows the first aid facilities that exist within the work area.
14. Understands the use of barriers and warning signs.
15. Knows and understands the method used to protect work areas from damage due to portable heating equipment.
16. Understands and explains how to safely use scaffold platforms.
17. Understands the necessary safety precautions including the use of protective clothing and equipment for a range of applications.
18. Knows and understands the methods used for protecting customers' property.
19. Describe any toxic effect of materials used.
20. Describe working at height and fall protection precautions.
21. Describe safety requirements concerning stairways and ladders.
22. Describe safety precautions when using scaffold and elevated platforms.

<b>Required Knowledge</b>	<p>23. Describe necessary safety precautions when handling materials with cranes.</p> <p>24. Describe electrical hazards and precautions common at construction/ work sites.</p> <p>25. Describe good practices and important limitations in manual handling.</p>
---------------------------	---

<b>Required Skills</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identifies which health and safety procedures are relevant to the working environment.</li> <li>2. Complies with duties and obligations as defined by the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000.</li> <li>3. Follows workplace policies and employers instructions for the safe use and to maintain in good working condition tools and equipment.</li> <li>4. Controls health and safety hazards within their capability and job responsibility.</li> <li>5. Reports any hazards which may present risk to relevant persons.</li> <li>6. Follows correct procedures in the event of injuries to themselves or others.</li> <li>7. Takes remedial action where work methods are not in line with control measures resulting from relevant risk assessment.</li> <li>8. Adheres to work production and installation processes as officially instructed by the employer</li> <li>9. Carry out the safe erection, use and dismantling of simple system scaffold platforms less than 2m high.</li> <li>10. Complies with warning signs and sets up safety barriers around working area.</li> <li>11. Equips oneself with the appropriate protective clothing and safety equipment for specific tasks.</li> </ol>
------------------------	--

## APL: 302

### Identify Systems, Equipment and Components

<b>Description of Unit</b>	<p>This unit is about applying the necessary preparations prior to work being conducted. This unit is also about identifying the different materials used for both installation and service and maintenance work.</p>
<b>Performance Criteria</b>	<p>The candidate must have the necessary knowledge and skills to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Carry out control of plastering material to avoid waste and dispose waste according established procedures to protect the environment.</li> <li>2. Recognise when specialized skills and knowledge are required and report accordingly.</li> <li>3. Recognise hand and power tools defects.</li> <li>4. Store plastering materials appropriately.</li> </ol>
<b>Required Knowledge</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Knows and understands the range of materials, products and procedures applicable to the relevant work and their benefits.</li> <li>2. Knows and understands the basic functions of plastering.</li> <li>3. Describe materials and common tools used for plastering.</li> <li>4. Defines and understands the basic properties of natural, crushed rock, manufactured, lightweight, dense aggregates.</li> <li>5. Defines and understands the basic properties of cement ordinary, rapid hardening, high alumina.</li> <li>6. Describe when to use plaster mixes with fine hard wearing rock fragments (granolithic mix).</li> <li>7. Describe acceptable methods to avoid wastes and how to carry out disposal of waste.</li> </ol>

**Required Skills**

1. Identifies the different types of materials, products, methods and procedures applicable to the relevant work.
2. Identifies the relevant materials required for the required job.
3. Confirms that all materials, tools and equipment necessary for the installation process are available as required.
4. Confirms that all material, tools and equipment are fit for their intended purpose.
5. Connects components through methods that conform to industry requirement.
6. Identifies and selects materials against given specifications.
7. Distinguishes between the different types of materials.
8. Identifies and selects various fixings from given specifications.
9. Use access equipment safely.
10. Calculate simple length and areas.
11. Carry out safe work practices to prepare background surfaces for plastering.

## APL: 303

### Calculating, Positioning and Drawing

<b>Description of Unit</b>	<p>This unit is about understanding and applying dimensions from drawings and calculating quantities in the preparation, costing and estimation.</p>
<b>Performance Criteria</b>	<p>The candidate must have the necessary knowledge and skills to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read and interpret instructions and building drawings.</li> <li>2. Calculate accurately surface areas of flat surfaces.</li> <li>3. Relate volume of material to spreading rate.</li> <li>4. Read and interpret bar charts.</li> <li>5. Calculate labour rates.</li> </ol>
<b>Required Knowledge</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comprehends calculations.</li> <li>2. Comprehends compilations of overall linear dimensions from drawings.</li> <li>3. Comprehends calculations involving quantities and costs of materials.</li> <li>4. Defines which tools and equipment are used to set out domestic pipe work systems.</li> <li>5. Knows and explains the correct procedure for setting out work systems.</li> <li>6. Understands and identifies scale working drawings from plans.</li> <li>7. Interpret simplified working instruction from drawings, specifications.</li> </ol>

**Required Skills**

1. Translate drawings of linear and rectangular structures to accurate dimensions.
2. Translates and calculates areas obtained from drawings.
3. Calculates the quantity and cost of materials needed from actual measurements.
4. Translates measurements from drawings and sets out work systems.
5. Interpret working instruction from drawings, specifications.



## APL: 304

### Identifying and Applying Systems, Equipment and Components

<b>Description of Unit</b>	<p>This Unit is about selecting and using hand tools in a correct and safe manner.</p>
<b>Performance Criteria</b>	<p>The candidate must have the appropriate knowledge and skills to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plaster true plane finished surface in the deviation range of less than 3mm along a 1.8m straight edge.</li> <li>2. Plaster finished surfaces to the correct line and level, with angles and corners to the right angle, and with walls and reveals plumb and square.</li> <li>3. Keep records of all information pertinent to the preparation of plasterwork.</li> <li>4. Carry out plastering layers to comply with the curing time specifications.</li> <li>5. Advise customers on the appropriate plastering method and techniques required to plaster defective background walls and ceilings.</li> </ol>
<b>Required Knowledge</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Names tiling equipment.</li> <li>2. Explains how to use and maintain equipment.</li> <li>3. Understands manufacturers' instructions and the use of the various types of equipment.</li> <li>4. Identifies and understands the range of floor, wall and ceiling building materials used in domestic buildings.</li> <li>5. Follow instruction to protect work against damage from general workplace activities, and weather conditions.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Required Knowledge</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Follow working site security procedures.</li> <li>7. Install expanded metal lath (EML).</li> <li>8. Use established forms to keep records of all information pertinent to the preparation of plasterwork.</li> <li>9. Check the effectiveness of natural and forced ventilation of internal workspaces.</li> <li>10. Knowledge about the importance of the DPC.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Required Skills</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Confirms that materials, tools and equipment required are fit for their intended purpose.</li> <li>2. Use and maintain in good working condition hand tools, portable power tools and ancillary equipment.</li> <li>3. Prepare brick, stone or concrete surfaces to receive solid plastering by removing any loose or semi-loose material or any unwanted obstructions.</li> <li>4. Use appropriately common lifting aids and equipment.</li> <li>5. Move, handle and store appropriately materials, tools and other resource.</li> <li>6. Prepare and mix by hand and mixer, to given working instructions, solid backing or finishing plasters.</li> <li>7. Identifies, use, clean and store portable power tools.</li> <li>8. Follow instruction to handle and store supplied resources such as plasters, cements, limes, sand, additives, waterproofing agents, bonding/ priming agents.</li> <li>9. Mix to specified proportions plastering material and apply cement and sand renders/ screed and plaster renders.</li> <li>10. Carry out and finish one, two and three coats plasterwork to walls and ceilings.</li> </ol>

**Required Skills**

11. Carry out one-coat work and two-coat work, internal and external angles, reveals (around doors and windows), cills and soffits, walls, ceiling.
12. Remove defective plaster/ render work.
13. Apply finish plaster to pre-plaster surfaces and finished concrete surfaces.
14. Apply plaster to flat and curved surfaces.
15. Apply base coats, reinforcing mesh and stress patches.
16. Apply solid render to brick, limestone block, concrete, expanded metal lath (EML), external insulation.
17. Produce a plain-faced finish coat to external walls.