

QUALITRAIN

Improvement Specialist (Black Belt) Level 5

"The leading foundation qualification for Lean Six Sigma in any industrial sector today"

Improvement Specialists are responsible for leading the deployment of improvement strategy, for training others and for providing deep technical expertise in advanced Lean and Six Sigma, Project and Change Management principles and tools.

Improvement Specialists typically report to Improvement Leaders who develop the improvement strategy and governance and provide technical guidance on advanced analysis. Improvement Specialists manage Improvement Practitioners who lead smaller improvement projects. They work closely with other Improvement Specialists to support the delivery of improvement strategy, working on multiple simultaneous projects linked to key business objectives.

Who is it for?
Roles are commonly found in all industry sectors and functions including Automotive, Pharmaceutical, Telecommunication, Retail, Finance, Food, Drink, Travel and Leisure. Job titles associated with the Specialist occupation include: Business Improvement Expert, Continuous Improvement Consultant, Process Excellence Manager, Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, Business Improvement Consultant, Business Transformation Consultant.

Typical Attributes Gained by Candidates
Leading Improvement teams: Personality types, team development stages, motivational techniques, situational leadership, learning styles, mentoring models.
Project planning, review & coaching: Multi-element business case, financial plan, benefits realisation plan, risk management plan, project plan. Maslow's hierarchy of needs.
Principles & methods for Improvement: How to apply Improvement Methods across all functions, policy deployment principles, Lean culture.
Statistics & measures: Probability distributions & how to test for fit of probability distributions to data. Confidence intervals, central limit theorem. Testing data for stability & normality & strategies for dealing with non-stable or non-normal data.
Experimentation: Principles of full and fractional designed experiments including replicates, repeats, randomisation, blocking & centre points, resolution and confounding.
Failure mode avoidance: System state flow, boundary diagram, interface analysis tables, fault tree analysis, robustness checklist, tolerance design and analysis. Principles & links between Failure Modes and Effects analysis for concepts, designs, processes.
Sustainability & control: Control & reaction plans. Prevention controls.

Improvement Specialist: Knowledge and Skills Overview

- Leading improvement teams
- Strategic Deployment of Continuous Improvement
- Communication
- Capability Development
- Project planning
- Change planning
- Principles and Methods for Improvement
- Process mapping & analysis
- Lean tools and Measurement
- Statistics & measures
- Data analysis-statistical methods
- Root cause analysis
- Experimentation and optimisation
- Data analysis (Statistical Process Control)
- Benchmarking
- Failure mode avoidance
- Sustainability and control
- Project Selection and Scope

Qualification
This qualification has been specifically built for leaders of small projects and those that play a supporting role in larger programmes led by Black Belts or Improvement Specialists. It is a progression pathway for the Improvement Technician qualification. There is more emphasis on leadership and project management as well as the six sigma tools and methodologies. Developed by leading organisations within industry including Toyota, Rolls-Royce Controls and Data Services, Kraft Heinze Company, Glaxo SmithKline Plc, Britvic, Jaguar Land Rover, Wincanton, Royal Mail, this qualification is a combination of lean and six sigma skills required by today's leading Improvement Practitioners or Green Belts. Qualitrain can successfully apply this qualification to all industrial sectors and make the tools and techniques fit your individual improvement projects.

What skills and knowledge will be achieved?
The Improvement Specialist will be able to draw on their advanced Continuous Improvement knowledge and skills in applying Improvement principles and tools across a range of programmes/ projects/ areas to build the capability of others. They will also be able to swiftly visualise processes, problems and opportunities and use both graphical and statistical analysis to deliver improvements.

They will be able to lead the local deployment of improvement strategy; supporting delivery of business goals, for example they may model critical process inputs to enable root causes of complex problems to be verified or they may develop bespoke measurement processes to enable the collection of good-quality data in support of change

What are the benefits for the business?
As with all the Improvement qualifications the major benefits to the business are reduced waste, improved quality and efficiency, achieve sustainable savings, gain competitive edge and implement a culture of continuous improvement.

How long does the apprenticeship take?
Typically, this apprenticeship will take around 14 months to complete.

Is this a Government Funded Qualification?
Funding for the Improvement Specialist (Black Belt) Level 5 Apprenticeship can be accessed through the Apprenticeship Levy. In addition to delivering the training, we can provide administration support, which includes accessing the Levy.

Please contact us directly to discuss this apprenticeship or any additional training requirements:

QUALITRAIN

Improving People, Process & Performance

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