



QUALITRAIN



Improvement Specialist (Black Belt) Level 5

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. This level 5 programme typically lasts 14 months.

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 and 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 (eg. Practical Problem Solving, Define-Measure-Analyse-Improve-Control, 8-Disciplines, Identify-Define-Optimise-Verify) across all functions, policy deployment principles, Lean culture.

Statistics & measures: Probability distributions and how to test for fit of probability distributions to data. Confidence intervals, central limit theorem. Testing data for stability and normality and strategies for dealing with non-stable or non-normal data.

Experimentation: Principles of full and fractional designed experiments including replicates, repeats, randomisation, blocking and 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 and links between Failure Modes and Effects analysis for concepts, designs, processes.

Sustainability & control: Control and reaction plans. Prevention controls.

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

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
- Process capability & performance
- 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 Heinz 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?

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