



DYFODOL  
DISGLAIR  
BRIGHTER  
FUTURES



# Software Tester

More information can be found at

[Software Tester | Job Information \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/jobs/software-tester)



Gyrfa Cymru  
Careers Wales



# Qualifications Required

HNC/HND, NVQ Level 4 or Level 5 up to Degree, NVQ Level 6

For entry to a degree/Higher National Diploma (HND) course in a computing subject, the usual requirements are:

- 2/3 A levels
- GCSEs at grade C/4 or above in 2/3 other subjects
- English and maths at GCSE

Alternative level 3 qualifications to A levels include:

- BTEC - computing and software technologies
- BTEC - professional competence for IT and telecoms professionals
- BTEC - software development
- City & Guilds - ICT professional competence
- City & Guilds - advanced technical diploma in digital technologies (application development)
- the International Baccalaureate Diploma

However, course requirements vary so check college/university websites very carefully.

Some universities accept the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate as equivalent to one A level.



# Skills and Qualities

To become a Software Tester, you'll need:

- strong IT skills
- the ability to work calmly under pressure
- to be well organised
- to think logically
- the ability to plan ahead
- to pay attention to detail
- to be able to write clear reports
- verbal communication skills
- teamwork skills

## **Do I need Welsh Language skills?**

Welsh Language skills are often asked for. Being able to read, write and speak Welsh may be an advantage when you're looking for work in Wales.



# Entry Routes

If you have completed at least two A levels, including one in a relevant subject, then you will be able to start work as a Software Tester.

Or you could choose to go onto university, to study a relevant degree. At university you will learn some of the skills, techniques and technologies, that employers need.

Another option is to get onto a Degree Apprenticeship in a relevant area.

You will need to start carefully planning which A levels you are going to study. IT based subjects at GCSE and A level would help you to stand out from the crowd. Then once you are studying for your A levels, you will need to start looking for suitable job vacancies or applying to universities through UCAS.

A degree isn't essential for this job. However, degrees in relevant subjects are available at many universities. In order to get onto a degree course, you will usually need at least two A levels. An A level in an IT based subject would be a great help

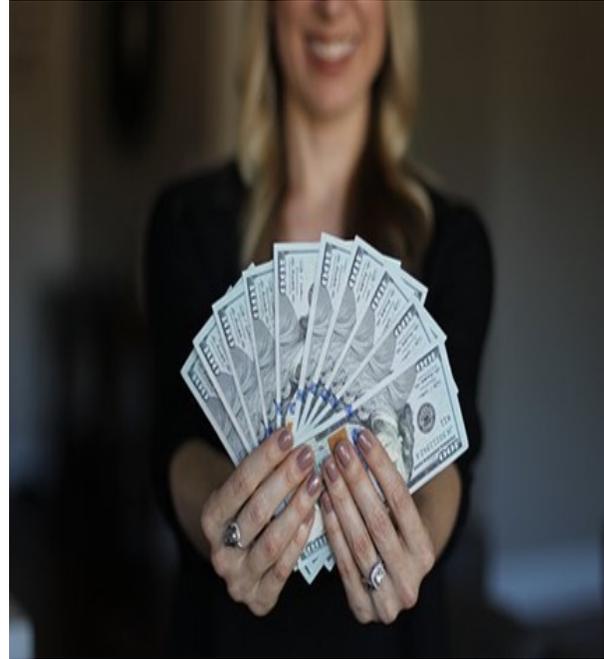


# Salary

The pay rates given below are approximate.

- Starting: £22,000 - £30,000
- With experience: £34,500 - £43,000
- Senior Software Testers earn £48,000 - £62,000

Your salary might include performance-related pay, profit share or company bonuses.



**For Information please use the QR  
code:**



**For entry to the Sixth Form, some schools  
require that students need 5 A\*-C at GCSE such  
as:**

English Language

- B in English Language, will consider those with C

English Literature

- B in English Literature, will consider those with C

Media studies

- C ideal in English Lit and Lang
- Interest in mass media and current affairs



# For more information or help with your career planning

Please get in touch with:

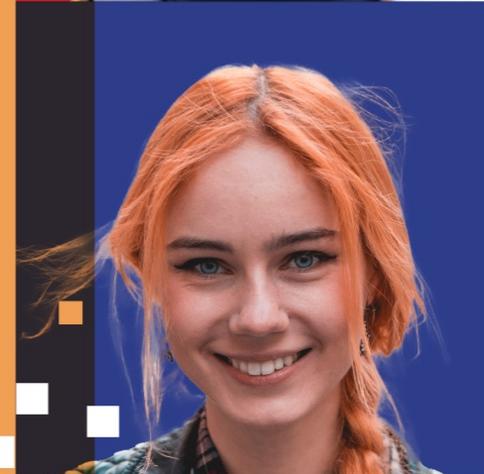
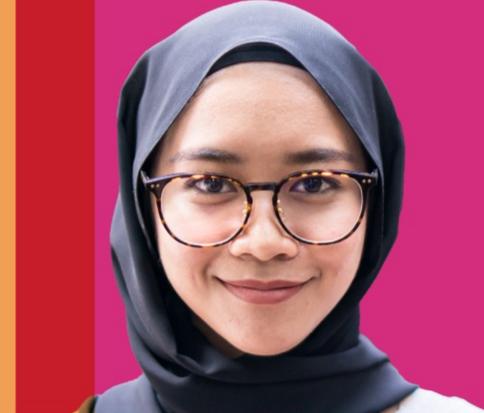
**Deb Smith**

Careers Adviser

Careers Wales

Mobile: 07890 274896

E-mail: [deb.smith@careerswales.gov.wales](mailto:deb.smith@careerswales.gov.wales)



# For more information or help with your career planning

Please get in touch with:

**David Jones** Careers Adviser

[david.jones@careerswales.gov.wales](mailto:david.jones@careerswales.gov.wales)

**Direct Number:** 02920 84 6691

**Mobile:** 7827991532

