

Meteorological instrument technician

This technician works on the measurement equipment behind weather information. The work is different from observing weather, producing a forecast or interpreting its impact on flights. Reliable measurements need disciplined equipment handling and records, but a laboratory qualification alone does not authorise work on a live airport system. The example is an early-career laboratory pathway, not a universal hiring threshold.

Other titles to compare: Weather sensor technician, Meteorological calibration technician. Titles alone do not establish equivalent duties.

What the role does

- Support sensor testing, calibration and maintenance.
- Check measurement records for completeness and consistency.
- Communicate equipment findings and limitations to the responsible team.
- Work within the employer's procedures and authorised task scope.

Where the work happens

Calibration laboratories, engineering workshops and, in some posts, field installations. The verified apprenticeship is based in Exeter, not specifically at an airport.

Employer example

Met Office • United Kingdom • Metrology Technician Apprenticeship - Level 3

Closed vacancy historical example • Checked 2026-10-27 [EMP1]

Category	What this employer states
Essential in this source	GCSE English, Maths and a Physical Science at grade 6 or above. Accuracy, teamwork, IT familiarity and communication; interest in programming or instrumentation/electronics.
Other stated conditions	Apprenticeship funding, England residence, UK work eligibility and security conditions apply; read the full notice.

One employer and role, not worldwide eligibility. Closed or undated examples do not establish current hiring.

Desirable requirements are not separately classified here; do not infer that none apply.

PREPARE AND VERIFY

Separate requirements from preparation

England - broad occupational standard: Skills England marks metrology technician as a non-regulated occupation. This classification does not waive workplace safety, equipment-specific competence or local aviation-service authorisation. [REG1]

Named employer apprenticeship: The stated school grades and funding criteria belong to this recruitment example. They are not minimum qualifications for every weather-instrument job worldwide. [EMP1]

Still to verify: One specific employer example is verified. No GCC employer example or complete airport-equipment authorisation framework has been established.

Explore a realistic entry route

- Start by distinguishing meteorology from metrology: one concerns the atmosphere; the other concerns measurement. A weather-instrument career connects them, but the training emphasis may be electronics, measurement science or field engineering rather than forecasting.

- Compare an apprenticeship, technical diploma and engineering route against actual vacancies. Record whether each route includes supervised practical work, assessment and equipment experience. Do not assume the most expensive course has the strongest connection to an employer.
- Read the eligibility and qualification sections separately. The academic requirement, apprenticeship funding rules and employment conditions answer different questions. Ask the appropriate provider to explain uncertain equivalences rather than converting grades yourself.
- Explore whether you prefer controlled laboratory work or site-based tasks. Before choosing a programme, ask about travel, practical supervision, accessibility and the kind of equipment learners may handle. These factors can differ substantially between employers.

Build evidence of your skills

- Create an invented measurement log with units, instrument identifiers and repeated readings. Deliberately include a missing unit and a transcription error, then document how you found them. This demonstrates care without accessing an operational installation.
- Write a simple uncertainty explanation for a non-specialist: a displayed number is not automatically exact. Use harmless classroom measurements and state the limits of your equipment and method; do not claim that the exercise is a professional calibration.
- Build a sample equipment handover form using fictional items. Include condition, outstanding questions, responsible reviewer and document version. Do not invent a serviceability approval or include real airport equipment locations.

Prepare for an interview

Reflection prompts only, not questions claimed to be used by an employer.

- Prepare an example of noticing an inconsistency, recording it accurately and asking for help when needed. A useful account explains the evidence rather than only saying that you are detail-oriented.
- Ask how a trainee progresses from observation to supervised tasks and then to a defined authorised scope. Clarify how mistakes, uncertain results and equipment changes are reviewed. These are preparation prompts, not actual selection questions.

Investigate possible next roles

Possible directions include calibration specialism, field instrumentation, quality support or further engineering study. Moving from a laboratory to an aviation operational installation may require additional local training and assessment.

Sources and scope

[EMP1] [Met Office Metrology Technician Apprenticeship - Level 3](#)

Closed vacancy historical example. United Kingdom. Checked 2026-10-27.

[REG1] [Skills England Metrology technician - OCC0282, version 1.2](#)

Level 3 occupational standard, updated 18 June 2026; identifies this occupation as not regulated. Broad metrology standard, not authority to service operational aviation weather equipment. Checked 2026-10-27.

Educational requirements guide, not operational instructions, professional approval or an employment guarantee. Verify current requirements with the relevant authority and employer. Examples are selective and date-specific. Check the full current vacancy and competent authority before choosing paid training or assessing eligibility. No personal medical, nationality or immigration assessment is made here. No job guarantee.