

RAD TRAINING LTD. – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do you run evening courses or weekends?

No. At present all of our courses run on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. We are a small centre and we do not employ additional staff for weekends or out-of-hours training. This helps keep our course costs low.

What are your pass rates?

For a candidate who has undertaken training at our centre before assessment the pass rate is around 95 %, rising to 98 % when second attempts are taken into account.

Why is your gas foundation course cheaper than others?

We do not source work placements and so do not have to pay mentors or supervisors for portfolio building. Instead, novice candidates source their own supervisor who is often a friend or relative in the gas industry. We have found this to be much more satisfactory and successful than placing candidates with complete strangers.

Are your exams online or paper-based?

All of our exams are paper-based. We have found this to be more flexible than computer-based or online assessment.

What percentage do you have to get to pass?

Ultimately you have to achieve 100 % to pass any gas safety assessment. However, with most exams you effectively get three attempts to achieve this:

1. Multiple choice
2. Multiple choice for any questions you got wrong in attempt 1.
3. Full written answers for any questions you got wrong in attempt 2.

If the answer is still wrong after attempt 3 you get what is called a “referral”, where you must return to the question after the rest of the assessment has been completed. This gives you a chance to study the topic.

What happens if I completely fail my assessment?

You will be given feedback on where you went wrong and guidance on what you need to study. You will be given additional training materials and exercises to work through. We can also communicate with mentors to advise them of any practical areas to focus on.

When you are ready you can re-take the assessment free of charge.

Are the exams open book or closed book?

For re-assessments all exams are open book (i.e. reference material may be used).

For initial assessment there is one closed book exam (multiple choice) which mainly covers gas Regulations, basic principles and common-sense safety. The remainder of the assessment is open book.

Is funding available for courses?

We cannot arrange funding but we do accept funding from various sources. For example, we are registered as a training provider with the Department of Work and Pensions who arrange funding for the Jobcentre.

We have also trained and assessed many candidates who have obtained funding after redundancy or leaving the Armed Forces.

How good do my English and maths have to be?

You have to be able to read and understand manufacturers' instructions, British Standards and Regulations.

You need basic arithmetic skills such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals and percentages.

What further training and assessment routes will be available after becoming qualified?

After 6 months of being Gas Safe registered and gaining relevant supervised experience and training you can add new ACS elements to existing qualifications including:

- Additional appliances
- Additional domains of work, e.g. industrial, catering, LPG, meter installation

What books and training materials are available?

Extensive printed notes are provided on all topics during training. Candidates should also obtain copies of:

- Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998
- Gas Industry Unsafe Situations Procedure (IGEM/G/11)

Both are available free online.

We strongly recommend candidates purchase a set of gas safety textbooks such as the NICEIC On-Site Guides.

During exams all relevant standards will be available to candidates.

What doesn't the GGFO foundation course cover?

- Plumbing
- Electrical work (other than safe isolation)
- Fault finding (of non-gas components)
- Work upstream of the emergency control valve (ECV)

Do the exams contain trick questions?

No, but here's one you might like to try answering:

Q. What is the probability you will get this question correct by guessing?

- a. 25 %*
- b. 50 %*
- c. 75 %*
- d. 25 %*