

## Becoming a commercial gas engineer

The qualification scheme for gas work in the UK is called **ACS (Accredited Certification Scheme)**. ACS covers several different areas including domestic, commercial industrial, commercial catering, LPG, and meter installation.

Commercial ACS assessments include:

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| COCNI | Core commercial gas safety                                 |
| ICPNI | First-fix pipework   |
| TPCPA | Tightness testing and purging                              |
| CIGAI | Indirect-fired gas heaters (boilers and flued air heaters) |
| CORTI | Radiant tube and plaque heaters                            |
| CDGAI | Direct-fired (flueless) air heaters                        |

A qualified commercial gas engineer will hold COCNI plus one or more of the above elements. For example, a boiler commissioning or servicing engineer would require COCNI and CIGAI. A pipe installer who does not work on appliances would require COCNI, ICPNI and TPCPIA.

Before taking ACS assessments, if you do not already have a recognised gas qualification, you must complete a **managed learning programme** such as the **Guild of Gas Fitting Operatives (GGFO)**. The GGFO consists of **off-job** training, **on-job** training, written exams and practical assessments.

### GGFO off-job training

This consists of **25 days** at our training centre in 2-week, 1-week and 1-day blocks spread over a number of months. Classroom and workshop lessons cover all of the required knowledge and practical skills including:

- Legislation
- Safe isolation of electrical supply
- Pipework design and installation
- Flues and chimneys
- Appliance ventilation
- Complete and incomplete combustion
- Use of a combustion analyser
- Gas pressures and flow rates
- Appliance installation, commissioning, inspection, and servicing
- Safety controls

## GGFO on-job training

As evidence of on-job training you must complete a portfolio of gas work under the direct supervision of one or more Gas Safe registered engineers. We supply you with a blank portfolio of 80 Gas Work Records.

Installing and commissioning a commercial boiler including supply pipework would provide evidence for four different ACS elements: COCNI, ICPNI, TPCPIA and CIGAI, and would count as two separate Gas Work Records: one for the pipework and one for the appliance.

## GGFO assessment

When your portfolio is complete you return to the training centre for the GGFO practical and written exams. If successful, you will receive a certificate that allows you to then take ACS assessments.

If you are unsuccessful at the first attempt of any assessment you can retake it free of charge.

## GGFO cost

GGFO (including training, assessment, portfolio and certificate) costs £ 2694 inc. VAT.

## GGFO dates

The dates for the next GGFO course are as follows:

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Week 1 | Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July                           |
| Week 2 | Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July                           |
| Week 3 | Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October                        |
| Week 4 | Can be arranged to suit in 1-day or 2-day blocks       |
| Week 5 | To be arranged after completion of the portfolio       |
| ACS    | To be arranged after completion of the GGFO assessment |

## ACS assessment costs (inc. VAT)

|        |                               |                                   |
|--------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| COCNI  | Core commercial gas safety    | £ 408                             |
| ICPNI  | First-fix pipework            | £ 51                              |
| TPCPIA | Tightness testing and purging | £102                              |
| CIGAI  | Indirect-fired gas heaters    | £ 51                              |
| CORTI  | Radiant heaters               | £ 51                              |
| CDGAI  | Direct-fired gas heaters      | £ 0 (included with CIGAI + CORTI) |
| CERT   | Certification fee             | £ 60                              |