

## Becoming a commercial gas engineer

The qualification scheme for gas work in the UK is called **ACS (Accredited Certification Scheme)**. ACS assessments cover 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 (unflued) air heaters

A commercial gas engineer will hold COCNI plus one or more additional elements. For example, a boiler servicing engineer would hold COCNI and CIGAI. A pipe installer who does not work on appliances would hold COCNI, ICPNI and TPCPIA. It is also possible to be an all-rounder who holds all of the above qualifications.

Before taking ACS assessments, if you do not already have a recognised gas qualification, you must complete a **managed learning programme (MLP)**.

Our MLP is called the **Guild of Gas Fitting Operatives (GGFO)**. The GGFO consists of **off-job** training, **on-job** training, written exams and practical assessments.

### Off-job training

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

- Pipework design and installation
- Flues / chimneys
- Ventilation
- Combustion analysis
- Gas pressures and gas rate testing
- Tightness testing and purging
- Appliance installation / commissioning
- Appliance servicing
- Gas controls
- Legislation
- IGEM standards
- Unsafe situations procedure

## On-job training (portfolio)

You must complete a portfolio of 80 gas jobs under the direct supervision of one or more Gas Safe-registered engineers. The work must be relevant to the ACS elements you wish to undertake. For example, installing and commissioning a commercial boiler (including gas pipework) would provide evidence for four ACS elements: COCNI, ICPNI, TPCPIA and CIGAI. It could count as two separate jobs: one for the pipework and one for the appliance.

*Note: on-job training takes a minimum of six months.*

## GGFO assessment

When your on-job training is complete, you return to our training centre for GGFO practical assessments and written examinations. If successful, you will receive a certificate that allows you to take ACS assessments.

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

## GGFO cost

The GGFO (including training, assessment, portfolio and certificate) costs £ 2736 inc. VAT.

## GGFO dates

The dates for the next commercial GGFO course are as follows:

Week 1	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October
Week 2	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Week 3	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November
Week 4	Can be arranged to suit in 1-day or 2-day blocks
Week 5	To be arranged after completion of portfolio

## 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	£ 72