

Becoming a domestic gas engineer

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

Before you can take ACS assessments you must complete a **managed learning programme** from an approved training provider. The list of currently-approved training providers can be found at <https://www.euskills.co.uk/downloads/training-provider-directory/>

Our approved managed learning programme is called the **Guild of Gas Fitting Operatives (GGFO)**. If successful you receive a certificate that allows you to take ACS assessments. The GGFO includes **off-job** training, **on-job** training, written exams and practical assessments.

Off-job training

This takes place at our training centre in Smethwick. Classroom and workshop lessons cover all the required theory knowledge and practical skills needed for ACS assessments including:

- Understanding appliance safety controls
- Gas Industry Unsafe Situations Procedure
- Tightness testing and purging
- Testing and setting gas pressures
- Checking gas rate and heat input
- Rectifying faults
- Working on gas meters
- Designing and installing gas pipe systems
- Flues and chimneys
- Ventilation
- Combustion analysis
- Installing, commissioning and servicing
- Using manufacturer's instructions
- Using British Standards
- Understanding gas Regulations
- Safe isolation

On-job training

You must complete a portfolio of 80 gas jobs under the supervision of a Gas Safe registered engineer. The first 15 jobs can be completed by observing your supervisor doing gas work. Then, as you learn, you begin to do more of the work yourself. By the end of the portfolio you should be able to do all practical aspects of the work. Please note that your supervisor must be present at all times while you are doing gas work.

Note: those who already hold limited scope ACS qualifications such as meter installation or commercial pipework installation will need a 50-job portfolio to extend to full scope ACS.

GGFO assessment

When your portfolio is complete you return to the training centre for practical and written exams which usually takes 3 to 4 days. If unsuccessful in your first attempt you can retake them free of charge.

GGFO cost

A deposit of £ 510 secures your place on the course and covers the cost of the first week. A further £ 510 is paid at the start of each remaining week. There is a charge of £ 144 to cover the portfolio and GGFO certificate.

The total cost is £ 2694 including VAT.

ACS assessments

After successfully completing the GGFO you can undertake ACS assessment. This takes between 6 and 8 days depending on how many appliances you do. The costs (including VAT) are:

CCNI (Core domestic gas safety)	£ 510
CENWAT (Boilers and water heaters)	£ 76.50
CKRI (Cookers)	£ 76.50
HTRI (Fires)	£ 76.50
Certification fee	£ 60

Note: your portfolio must include at least 3 installs and 3 services of any appliance you wish to become qualified to work on.

Becoming Gas Safe registered

After successfully completing ACS assessments you can join the Gas Safe Register either as a sole trader or as an operative of a registered company. After this you can legally work on gas without supervision.

Dates

The dates for the next GGFO are:

Week 1	Gas safety training	Monday 13 th July – Friday 17 th July
Week 2	Gas safety training	Monday 20 th July – Friday 24 th July
Week 3	Revision training	Monday 7 th September – Friday 11 th September
Week 4	Formative tests	Can be arranged to suit in 1-day or 2-day blocks
Week 5	GGFO assessment	To be arranged after completion of your portfolio
ACS	CCNI & appliances	To be arranged after completion of your GGFO assessment