

CORGI Assessment Pre-requisites

General Conditions to be met by applicants seeking gas certification in the Nationally Accredited Certification Scheme for Individual Gas Fitting Operatives (ACS) in accordance with the Operational Requirements effective 1 August 2003.

The following conditions are required by the above scheme and are applicable to all applicants:

The applicant must supply information regarding their gas industry experience and/or qualifications currently or previously held.

The applicants must specify each type of gas work (as identified in the ACS codes, e.g. CCN1 = Core Domestic Gas Safety) that they wish to carry out and the application category (shown below) that they believe they are.

Applicants will fall into one of the three categories listed below. Applicants that do not satisfy the criteria of Categories 1 and 2 will be classified as Category 3, which is a new entrant to the Gas Industry.

Category 1

Category 1 applicants are experienced gas fitting operatives from within or outside of the United Kingdom.

A) They are:

- i) seeking to renew expiring or expired certificates of gas safety competence i.e. HSC ACoP, ACS or Gas Services N/SVQ's
- ii) Seeking assessment and certification to extend their range of gas work.
- iii) Foreign nationals seeking to obtain certificates of gas safety competence enabling them to meet UK gas work requirements. Operatives in this category must present evidence of their gas fitting qualifications and experience to the Assessment Centre. (Translation of this information will be necessary when not presented in English)

Note: Applicants who would normally consider themselves to be Category 1, but who have:

1. Had a gas competency certificate or qualification withdrawn in the past, or
2. Been deemed incompetent in the past in matters of gas safety,

must categorise themselves as Category 2 and provide the Assessment Centre with full details of the qualification withdrawal or the circumstances in which they were deemed incompetent.

Category 1 Application Conditions:

Applicants applying for Initial or Reassessment must present to the Assessment Centre all appropriate certificates of gas safety competence.

Applicants must declare whether they are:

- A) registered with The Council for Registered Gas Installers (CORGI) , either:
- i) as a self employed operative, and declare their business registration number,
 - ii) as an employee of a CORGI registered employer and declare the business registration number
- B) are not registered or covered by CORGI registration

Category 2

Applicants must provide evidence that they hold qualifications relevant to the area of gas work they are seeking to obtain certification in. These qualification must have enabled competence to be demonstrated in the generic work activities associated with fossil fuelled appliances/equipment and/or pipework installation, including, any of the following work activities, flueing or ventilation of the installation, maintenance or commissioning of such appliances. Applicants must present evidence to the Assessment Centre prior to the commencement of assessment.

Examples of appropriate qualifications include:

- Plumbing craft qualification or N/SVQ (oil and/or solid fuel options) - suitable initially for domestic or commercial central, water heating or pipework installation.
- Pipefitter/welder craft qualification or N/SVQ – suitable initially for commercial pipework, pipework commissioning and meter installation.
- Heating and Ventilation craft qualification or N/SVQ – suitable initially for commercial pipework and appliance installation.
- Refrigeration Engineer/fitter craft qualification or N/SVQ – suitable initially for commercial appliance and pipework installation.

Additionally, applicants in this category must provide written evidence to the Assessment Centre confirming that they have undertaken “on the job” gas installation and/or maintenance training and have experience of gas work that has been carried out under the direct supervision of a competent operative employed by a CORGI registered business that would support their application for the range of assessment to be undertaken.. This evidence must be in writing from the employer detailing precisely the area of gas work previously carried out. Applicants who do not satisfy the criteria of Categories 1 or 2, will be classified as a new entrant to the industry. See Category 3 Applicants.

Category 2 Application Conditions:

Applicants with relevant qualifications and experience must declare whether they have:

- A) had a gas competency certificate or qualification withdrawn in the past
- B) been deemed incompetent in the past in matters of gas safety and if so provide details for review by the certification body who will make a decision about the application after a full review of the circumstances. A full record of the findings and decision will be kept for a period of 6 years.

Category 3

Category 3 applicants are new entrants to the gas industry and as such, they are without a relevant qualification and/or experience, entering employment for the first time or changing career direction.

Category 3 Application Conditions:

An applicant in the category will not be able to provide acceptable evidence of relevant qualifications and gas work experience. Therefore, the application is not acceptable.

Individuals in the category will be advised to seek training and experience which will result in attainment of a National/Scottish Vocational Qualification (N/SVQ) in Gas Services, Installation and Maintenance at Level II or III or to obtain employment with a CORGI registered business who is willing to provide an auditable extended period of company "in house" gas training programme and organisational support to the operative prior to taking ACS assessment. The duration and content of the training programme will be determined by the scope of gas work to be undertaken. Evidence in the form of a portfolio of the completion of such a training programme must be presented to the Assessment Centre prior to the operative taking assessments.

Alternatively, an N/SVQ within the Mechanical Engineering Sector with related on the job gas training and experience in the intended areas of gas work to be carried out will also support a future application.

The Accreditation for Prior Learning (APL) advisor at the N/SVQ centre will be able to offer guidance on this matter.