

Level 4 - Diploma in Verification of Ground Gas Protection Systems

The purpose of the ABBE Level 4 Diploma in Verification of Ground Gas Protection Systems qualification is to provide the learner with the knowledge, understanding and skills required for those involved in independent verification.

This qualification is likely to appeal both to environmental technicians, specialist Verifiers in the contaminated land sector and gas membrane installers with previous background knowledge or experience of systems and who wish to train and qualify in a new discipline.

The qualification uses the Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF) units which were developed by ABBE in consultation with representatives from industry organisations, The British Verification Council (BVC)

This qualification can be found of the Register of Regulated Qualifications at www.ofqual.gov.uk

2.1 The Regulated Qualification Framework

The Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF) is a structure for recognising qualifications in the UK. It enables recognition of smaller sections of learning which can be gained in a flexible manner. Qualifications are made up of individual units which each have their own credit value. One credit represents 10 hours of learning. It is the accumulation of this credit which builds to form the qualification.

The size of a qualification is indicated as follows:

- Awards (1 to 12 credits)
- Certificates (13 to 36 credits)
- Diplomas (37 credits and above)

The terms Award, Certificate and Diploma then reflect the size of the qualification rather than its difficulty. The qualification levels indicate the complexity of the qualification. The levels range from Entry to Level 8.

Individual units can be shared between multiple qualifications to enable learners to move smoothly between qualifications without repetition of learning. This will be tracked through unique learner numbers (ULNs) assigned to all learners completing RQF units to enable them to transfer their credit through the RQF. Learners can choose to take individual units but in order to gain a qualification they must complete the set Rule of Combination (RoC) for a qualification. This is a structure which can be comprised of mandatory and optional units and defines what comprises the complete qualification.

For more information on the RQF visit www.ofqual.gov.uk

Application process

We feel it is important that this qualification is available to everyone who is capable of reaching the required standards and has access to appropriate work to generate the necessary evidence.

All potential learners must complete a learner profile document. This can be received from the centre. Before accepting learners onto this qualification, Centres must assess each applicant's potential and make a professional judgment about their ability to successfully complete the programme of study, where applicable, and achieve the qualification. This assessment will need to take account of the support available to learners during their programme of study and any specific support that might be necessary to allow them to access the assessment for the qualification.

A response from this profile will be sent to the learner within 10 working days from submission.

Pre-requisites

The Awarding Body for the Built Environment (ABBE) level 4 Diploma in Verification of Ground Gas Protection Systems is available to experienced practitioners who are active in planning, implementing and reporting verification processes, or those who are occupationally experienced in gas membrane installation and workplace supervision in the ground gas sector.

The learners are required to have prior evidence of Continued Professional Development (CPD) within the environmental sector and/or certification against National Occupational Standards in Gas Membrane Installation (VR612 & VR613)

All learners must be over 18 years old.

Payments

If accepted onto the assessment the PCA will invoice the candidate for the full amount. Immediate payment is required for submission onto the scheme. This a non-refundable scheme after the point of induction.

Assessment

This qualification has been designed to encourage participation in education and training in other related areas by: establishing a framework of education and training for prospective Verification of Ground Gas systems. To enabling current practitioners in contaminated land to expand the portfolio of services offered to their customers by encompassing this award.

Thought your assessment you will need to complete 7 units.

- Design Principles and Application for Construction in the Built Environment
- Materials for Construction in the Built Environment
- Health, Safety and Welfare in the Construction Environment
- Construction and Maintenance of Buildings
- Confirming Work Meets Quality Standards in the Workplace
- Verification and Inspection of Ground Gas Protection Systems
- Regulatory Procedures and Legislation

Further detail on the contents of the units can be found in the ABBE specification.

Your assessment will be carried out using a selection of methods from the workbook you will be set, portfolio work and on-site assessment. Learners will have a total of 1 year and 1 day to complete and achieve a pass for this assessment.

Learning time

Learning time is a guide to how long it would take the average learner with no prior experience to complete a unit. This is intended as a guide only, the actual amount of time will vary according to the existing skill and knowledge of the individual learner.

Learning time is divided into Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and Private Study. GLH refers to the amount of study undertaken by learners under the direction of their tutors. This could include tutorials, seminars, workshops, directed research, project or assignment work and assessment.

The Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification is: 365

Guided Learning (GL) for this qualification is: 117

Credit Value: 37 credits

Learner's requirements

We recognise that some learners may have difficulty with the demands of a course or find the standard arrangements for the assessment of their vocational competence presents a challenge. This may apply to learners with known and long-standing learning difficulties and/or physical or other impairments.

If a learner has one of these they must inform that centre at the time of application so we can ensure we can support the learner through their assessment.

2.8 Role of learners

Learners will be required to produce a portfolio of work following the assessment criteria. They will need to identify, gather and record information and present this in a formal manner. Learners will also have an on-site assessment with their assessor, the IQA may also be present.

More information will be provided during your induction

Role of the assessor

The role of the assessor is to:

- Carry out initial assessments of learners to identify their current level of skills, knowledge and understanding and any training or development needs.
- Draw up assessment plans, identifying opportunities for evidence collection.
- Review the evidence presented against the requirements of the qualification, to make a judgement on the overall competence of learners.
- Provide feedback to learners on their performance and progress. This feedback needs to give learners a clear idea of how their portfolios are progressing to date and where further evidence is required and how best to obtain this. It should also enable learners to plan for those units where they currently have little experience or knowledge.

Role of the Internal Quality Assurer (IQA)

An IQA must be appointed to ensure the quality and consistency of assessments are maintained within the centre. Each assessor's work must be checked and confirmed by an IQA. The IQA checks and standardises the assessment decisions made by the assessors in the centre.

The IQA must observe assessors carrying out assessments, review assessment decisions from the evidence provided and hold meetings with the assessment team to ensure consistency in the use of documentation and interpretation of the qualification requirements.

Role of the External Quality Assurer (EQA)

The EQA checks the assessment and internal verification process and decisions made in the centre and authorises claims for certificates. The external verifier is appointed by ABBE.

Appeals Procedure

Every Learner has access to the appeals procedure should they not agree with their Assessors decisions. If learners disagree with their assessors concerning assessment of evidence, they have the right to refer the matter to: Neil Salvidge, the internal verifier within their centre, or the centre manager, if the matter is still unresolved.

The ABBE external quality assurer (EQA) who may be consulted at the next visit. At this stage learners should provide the EQA with records of the activity that has already been undertaken. In extreme circumstances, if the EQA is unable to bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion, then learners can appeal directly to ABBE.

ABBE will only accept an appeal from learners if the above steps have already been taken. Further details on appeals can be found in the ABBE Centre Operations Guide.