Gas Safe Qualifications

Frequently Asked Questions

1) What qualifications are currently ACS (Accredited Certification Scheme) aligned to allow a candidate to be eligible for a Gas Safe Register card?

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2) How do I upload the candidates National Insurance number and Photograph to Gas Safe Register?

The candidates National Insurance number and photograph are a mandatory requirement. You can upload this using the Cohort/Candidate Management facility on your Walled Garden account. Gas Safe Register can only process the results for candidates where the associated NI number is supplied and have instructed us to not send them any results for candidates where the NI number is missing or invalid.

Please use the Candidate Management facility on our Walled Garden website to update the NI numbers for your candidates. If you are unsure how to do this, please click here for our guide on Candidate Management. Please note that the Walled Garden is NOT fully compatible with Internet Explorer versions 8 and 9. However, you can rectify any browsing errors on Walled Garden by selecting the Compatibility Mode icon or selecting Compatibility View from your Tools menu. For full details please visit the Microsoft website and search Compatibility View.

Once the candidates have been assigned valid NI numbers their results will be automatically transferred to Gas Safe Register on the next working day.

You also have the ability to upload photographs using the Candidate Management facility on Walled Garden. Please ensure that the photo specifications meet the criteria.

**Learner** - Needs to contact centre.

**Centre** – Needs to ensure candidate details are correct on Walled Garden; if not then please amend the details. Please refer to the step by step guide on how to update candidate details, which can be found here.

3) Gas Safe Register 6012, 6014, 5991, 7428 and 7447 Gas & Dual Fuel, 6189 (Gas pathways) additional data requirements

From 6 October 2011 the additional data required on the Walled Garden to meet Gas Safe Register requirements changed.

Candidates will now need to provide the following details:

- National Insurance Number
- An electronic photograph that adheres to the photo specification requirements below
- Learner home address

This data will be automatically transferred to the Gas Safe Register once the qualification has been achieved which will enable the candidate to obtain Gas Safe Registration.
It is important that the information provided is correct and the photograph is of the correct quality and format otherwise it may delay or prevent the candidate becoming Gas Safe Register Qualified.

Photographs no longer need to be sent direct to the Gas Safe Register.

Photo specification requirements:

The photo must be must be of passport quality i.e.

- in colour, black and white is not allowed
- taken against a plain light grey or plain cream background
- a close-up of the learners head and shoulders
- free from shadows
- taken with eyes open and clearly visible (with no sunglasses or tinted glasses, and no hair across the eyes)
- free from reflection or glare on glasses, and the frames must not cover the eyes (where possible, we recommend that glasses are removed)
- free from red-eye
- of the learner facing forward, looking straight at the camera with a neutral expression and mouth closed (no grinning, frowning or raised eyebrows)
- of the learner on their own
- taken of the full head, without any covering, unless it is worn for religious beliefs or medical reasons
- taken with nothing covering the learners face
- be in sharp focus and clear
- have a strong definition between face and background
- be a jpeg file type with a minimum resolution of at least 200 (width)x(300(height)
- a maximum file size of 100Kb

The Gas Safe Register will not accept the image where it does not meet this specification.

4) Gas Safe Register has received my details but they have not received my photo?
Please contact your assessment centre to confirm they have sent your photo in accordance with the correct specification to the correct email address.
5) Gas Safe Register has received my details but why is the photo they received not acceptable?
Please contact your assessment centre to confirm that the photo which was uploaded to Walled Garden has met the specification as detailed in the guidance to assessment centres. Refer to point 3 or please see the Gas Safe Register additional data document which is located under additional documents on the 6012, 6014, 6189 and 7428 webpages.

6) What is the difference between City & Guilds qualifications and ACS?
City & Guilds qualifications are competency based that are awarded to successful candidates. These have been aligned to the ACS criteria, recognised by Gas Safe Register, and allows successful candidates to access to the Gas Safe Register in their particular discipline.

7) Does my City & Guilds qualification expire after five years?
No. They are competency qualifications that are valid for life. However, at present, to remain on the Gas Safe Register, gas installers are required to undertake successfully the relevant ACS assessments every five years.

8) Can we APL/RPL the ACS into the gas units on these qualifications?
The ACS only covers certain requirements of the EU skills units (predominantly safety and not necessarily competence) and therefore no full APL/RPL routes are available. Any centre considering APL from ACS would have to ensure all other requirements of the assessment criteria are met, such as RWE (Realistic Working Environment) observations, on-site assessments etc. The complete ISA (Independent Summative Assessment)/EU skills assessment route is a more flexible way of meeting all the requirements and gives centres flexibility over assessment times. If APL was considered the ACS qualification could not be more than 18 months prior to full certification.

9) How do we complete the framework without the plumbing element?
- 6014-903, 905 and 906 have no plumbing in their respective pathways.
- 6014 and 6189 have APL pathways for those who are already qualified as a plumber

10) How do 6014 candidates add additional units such as cookers, fires etc.?
They would first have to complete the additional assessments including ISA and QPs for the additional gas units, claim the additional units and the full certificate required. Results will be sent to the Gas Safe Register. Please refer to Question 8 in regards to ACS validity.
11) **How much Internal Quality Assurance is required?**

Unlike ACS there is no need to follow 100% QA, normal qualification sampling is required with a plan to cover all assessments, and all candidates, standardisation meetings and a series of assessor observations where the amount will depend on several factors, their experience, have they been involved in training etc.

12) **Do centres, assessors and trainers need to be gas safe registered?**

All centres need to be registered and anyone ‘working’ on gas should also be registered.

13) **How do we keep up to date with gas technical documents for the gas elements?**

Gas safe register run an initiative for a limited cost which allows access to all relevant recent documentation.

14) **What is the process for renewal? For example what if the candidate comes back in 5 years and complete the ACS renewal, will the expiry date be shown on the certificate.**

The expiry date is not shown on the certificate. Candidates will need to sign up for ACS re-assessment. City and Guilds does not run the re-assessments. Blue Flame, BPEC and Logic Training centres are UKCAS approved. We recommend candidates contact these companies for re-assessment.

15) **How do we achieve gas safe registration?**

Once all units are complete they can be claimed with City and Guilds. We then send the results to the Gas Safe Register. Once received candidates can then contact gas safe (provided that the training provider have already uploaded the candidates NI number and photograph) for registration.

16) **How long do I have to keep records of candidate assessment ISAs etc?**

6 years from completion. This is now outlined in the handbook.

17) **What about students doing 6035 Plumbing Level 3**

They will be a category 3 candidate for the ACS, but if they do the ISA route they will have covered 3 of the QPs (Question Papers).
18) How do I find what Gas Safe Categories I have allow me to do and what others are available

Please contact the Gas Safe Register

http://www.gassaferegister.co.uk/

If you have any further questions please contact our Customer Relations team on:

Phone: 0844 543 0000
Fax: 0207 294 2413
email: centresupport@cityandguilds.com