

# Asbestos Awareness UKATA

Accreditation	UKATA
Course duration	Half Day
Certificate valid for	1 year

#### Who should attend

Supervisors and trades personnel, including trainees such as but not limited to: demolition workers, construction workers, general maintenance staff, electricians, plumbers, gas fitters, painters and decorators, joiners, plasterers, roofers, heating and ventilation engineers, telecommunication engineers, fire and burglar alarm installers, computer installers, architects, building surveyors, shopfitters and other such professionals. Architects, building surveyors and other such professionals may require a more developed course which includes the core syllabus in this course, however with an additional module which includes the interaction between the various duties under the Construction Design and Management Regulations and those within CAR.

Inhalation of asbestos fibres can cause cancers such as mesothelioma and lung cancer, and other serious lung diseases such as asbestosis and pleural thickening, accounting for 5000 asbestos related deaths per year!

## Face Fit Testing (optional)

We can include an optional face fit test at the end of the course, for an additional £20+Vat per person. For more information and requirements on face fit testing and the importance of respiratory protective equipment (RPE) please visit our <u>Fit Testing page.</u>

#### **Course information**

#### **Overview**

If you have no intention of removing asbestos but work on buildings built or refurbished before the year 2000, asbestos could be present. You will need awareness training so you know how to avoid the risks.

Asbestos awareness training should be given to employees whose work could foreseeably disturb the fabric of a building and expose them to asbestos or who supervise or influence the work.

In particular, it should be given to those workers in the refurbishment, maintenance and allied trades where it is foreseeable that ACMs may become exposed during their work.

#### **Aims and Objectives**

On successful completion of this course, learners should be able to:

- Have an increased awareness of the nature and properties of asbestos and its effects on health, including the increased risk of lung cancer for asbestos workers who smoke;
- Be familiar with the types, uses and likely occurrences of asbestos in buildings and where appropriate items of plant;
- Know how to avoid the risks from asbestos by understanding;



- Where to obtain information on asbestos in premises prior to commencing work;
- What to do if suspicious materials are found;
- How to use appropriate workplace precautions, including the risk assessment process, or seek advice on workplace precautions, in respect of the risks of asbestos;
- Undertake work activities in a safe manner and without risk to themselves or others.
- Have an awareness of the key aspects of the asbestos regulations and how they fit into the broader context of health and safety legislation.
- Procedures to be followed when coming into unintentional contact with ACM's and an understanding of the appropriate emergency arrangements.

#### Learner Numbers

In order to ensure the interaction between the learners and the tutor is spread evenly and effectively, and to ensure the courses are fully delivered in accordance with the Scheme rules, the maximum number of learners allowed on a course is fifteen.

## Assessment

Attainment of the learning outcome for the qualification will assessed by a multiple choice examination consisting of at least 15 questions under exam conditions.

A learner will be required to achieve a score of at least 12 out of 15 (80%) in the examination. Failure to achieve this will result in the learner requiring to re-sit the examination under exam conditions. If a learner further fails the second attempt then they will require to re-sit the course in its entirety.

## Certification

You will receive a UKATA Asbestos Awareness Certificate valid for 1 year.

Face Fit Testing (optional): Face Fit test certificate and an ID Card valid for 1 year.

#### More details

#### **Statistics**

2016 statistics released by the Government show that over 5,000 people died from asbestos-related diseases last year, and still rising!

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is projecting that there will be around 2,500 mesothelioma deaths per year for the rest of this decade before numbers begin to decline.

- All asbestos-related diseases typically take many years to develop so current statistics reflect the legacy of past working conditions.
- Widespread use of asbestos containing products in the past, particularly in the post-WWII building industry, led to a large increase in asbestos-related disease in Great Britain over the last few decades.
- The cancer, mesothelioma, has such a strong relationship with asbestos that annual deaths give a particularly clear view of the effect of past exposures



 Annual deaths increased steeply over the last 50 years, largely as a result of asbestos exposure prior to 1980, and are now expected to continue at current levels for the rest of the decade before declining

## Legal Requirements

The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012, Regulation 10 requires every employer to ensure that adequate information, instruction and training is given to their employees who are or who are liable to be exposed to asbestos, or who supervise such employees.

This syllabus is concerned only with Asbestos Awareness Training as per paragraphs 232 and 233 of the associated Approved Code of Practice and shall be defined as Category 'A' Asbestos Awareness Training.

This syllabus will assist employers in meeting this requirement by explaining the properties of asbestos and its effects on the health of individuals, the types, uses and likely occurrences of asbestos and ACMs in buildings and plant, the general procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency and how to avoid the risks from ACMs.