

# Customer information sheet

## Domestic metering elementary gas certificate

### NICEIC package includes:

- lesson plans
- training materials
- assessment materials
- portfolio build templates.

Code	Core assessments	Practical provisions page(s)
Domestic metering EGC	N/A	N/A

### Introduction

#### 1 Standards of training in safe gas work training specification

This training specification represents the minimum requirement for a new entrant into the gas industry. The training programme coupled with the real work environment evidence period is often referred to as a managed learning programme (MLP) and this particular managed learning programme is tailored to accommodate new entrants who have the aspiration to initially become domestic meter installers. The key scope of responsibility is the installation and exchange of domestic sized gas meters to include the safe relight and visual inspection of customer appliances. There is also the choice of scope to cover the prerequisite core criteria for learners who desire to eventually progress their career into the non-domestic metering sector.

#### 2 NICEIC domestic elementary gas certificate specification

The NICEIC elementary gas certificate for meter installers training and assessment programme specification instructs the minimum requirement for our approved centres in delivering a credible learning experience. There are options open to new entrants based on the scope of metering work they wish to undertake. The new entrant learner must achieve and be awarded an elementary natural gas certificate as a meter installer which in itself is not sufficient to allow the individual to practice in the work environment unsupervised. The attainment of such a certificate is testament to having completed an approved managed learning programme accredited by a certification body (CB), delivered by a CB approved training provider, liaising closely with a gas safe registered company/engineer or OFGEM approved meter installer who is employing or offering a work placement to the learner for the duration of the programme. Once the certificate is attained and awarded the new entrant learner can apply as a candidate for the specific Accredited Certification Scheme (ACS) assessments related to their elementary gas certificate. (Refer to GN8.)

There is a range of options available to the learner within the programme that leads to the award of the elementary gas certificate for meter installers. We have included the following application pathways of choice for the learner. These are available for the learner to consider, take advice and choose.

**CMA1 pathway:** this is a core prerequisite pathway for metering. The programme will deliver knowledge and understanding of the required standards for domestic gas safety related to a meter installer's responsibility. This includes domestic installation pipe-work, chimney/flue, and ventilation requirements when a relight is required following a meter exchange. This route also requires the learner to understand the non-domestic equivalents for heating, catering and laundry. This additional practical, knowledge and understanding criteria, gives the learner the core competency requirements which are prerequisites to applying for future extensions of accreditation scope within metering work. Examples include:

- MET4 which is primary diaphragm meters of badged capacity  $>6 \text{ m}^3/\text{h} \leq 40 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$
- Pipework of diameter  $\leq 2''$  (50 mm) applied to low pressure only
- REGT1 which tests gas safety competence for installing and commissioning domestic meter regulators
- TPCP1A which tests any section of pipework, including appliance/plant pipework where the volume is  $\leq 1 \text{ m}^3$ . This includes the meter and allowances for fittings. It also requires the MOP to be  $\leq 40 \text{ mbar}$  at the outlet of the primary meter regulator and a supply MOP  $\leq 75 \text{ mbar}$ . The pipework diameter to be  $\leq 150 \text{ mm}$ , where lengths are limited to the maximum in the IGE/UP/1A tables.

It must be stressed that these progression accreditations will be subject to the learner completing a further approved route of learning and gaining sufficient practical skills, knowledge and understanding prior to applying for assessment. The NICEIC elementary gas certificate training and assessment programme for meter installers who wish to adopt the CMA1 accreditation route will have included the learning for MET1 which is the gas safety competences for installing, commissioning, exchanging, decommissioning and removing domestic gas primary or secondary meters of capacity  $\leq 6 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ .

**CMA3 pathway:** this pathway is as above with no non-domestic or medium pressure fed supply environments scoped (domestic only). The learner, eventually on completion, verification and award of their domestic elementary gas certificate for meter installers (applicable to the specific criteria range), will be able to apply for ACS assessment in gas safety competence for core domestic gas safety for metering work (CMA3) along with MET1. The programme will exclude work on appliances other than relighting after a temporary interruption to gas supply, work in premises outside the scope of BS 6400 – 1 and work on installation pipework other than that adjacent to the meter enabling the meter to be installed or exchanged.

**CMA2 LS pathway:** this pathway delivers learning and measures gas safety competence in core domestic limited scope gas meter work (CMA2 LS). It is specifically for primary domestic gas meters of capacity  $\leq 6 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$  (not connecting to an outlet supply). This is a limited core and prerequisite to MET3 LS which is the assessment combination for installing domestic gas meters which are sealed off at the meter outlet fitting and labelled ensuring gas is not left available to the installation pipework and/or appliances. The learning within the domestic elementary gas certificate training programme covers the requirements for this pathway.

### 3 Target audience

This learning programme is for individuals wishing to pursue a career as a domestic natural gas meter installer and desire the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to install, exchange, commission, remove and decommission gas meters depending on the chosen criteria pathway. It is specifically suitable for individuals who have related qualifications/skills from an engineering/trade sector environment and might be looking for a change in career.

### 4 Duration

Depending on the pathway the learner wishes to adopt, the durations are as follows:

**CMA1 pathway:** this includes the learning for MET1 and consists of 6 weeks minimum of approved provider training and evaluation along with a recommendation of 8\* (\*see section 14) weeks of real work environment experience, mentoring and assessment with a gas safe registered engineer/business or OFGEM approved meter installer.

**CMA3 pathway:** this includes the learning for MET1 and consists of 5 weeks minimum of approved provider training and evaluation along with a minimum of 7\* (\*see section 14) weeks of real work environment experience, mentoring and assessment with a gas safe registered engineer/business or OFGEM approved meter installer.

**CMA2 LS pathway:** this includes the learning for MET3 LS and consists of 3 weeks minimum of approved provider training and evaluation along with a minimum of 6 weeks of real work environment experience, mentoring and assessment with a gas safe registered engineer/business or OFGEM approved meter installer.

### 5 Learning units for providers

The Performance Criteria (PC) and Knowledge and Understanding (K&U) are based on that specified in CMA1, CMA3, CMA2 LS, MET3 LS and MET1 with additional criteria (other than matters of gas safety) to cover situations that may be encountered when working in the gas metering environment. This relates to other vocational related areas not assessed within the ACS criteria such as customer facing behaviours, health, safety & environment requirements.

The training provider environment total learning hours (TLH) assigned to each unit is detailed in the following table (Table 1).

Table 1.

Units and unit titles	TLH Pathway		
	CMA1	CMA2	CMA3
Unit 01: Safety, legislation and standards	14	12	12
Unit 02: Gas emergency actions and procedures	7	51	5
Unit 03: Install, exchange, commission, decommission and removal of meters	28	28	23
Unit 04: Products and characteristics of combustion	10	10	N/A
Unit 05: Ventilation for domestic gas burning appliances	14	14	N/A
Unit 06: Ventilation for non domestic gas burning appliances	7	N/A	N/A
Unit 07: Installation of domestic pipework and fittings	14	14	12
Unit 08: Installation of non-domestic pipework and fittings	7	N/A	N/A
Unit 09: Tightness testing and purging	21	21	21
Unit 10: Checking and/or setting meter regulators	14	14	14
Unit 11: Unsafe situations, emergency notices and warning labels	21	18	14
Unit 12: Operation and positioning of emergency isolation controls and valves	4	41	4
Unit 13: Chimney standards (domestic)	14	14	N/A
Unit 14: Chimney standards (non-domestic)	7	N/A	N/A
Unit 15: Chimney inspection (domestic visual inspection)	14	14	N/A
Unit 16: Chimney inspection (non-domestic visual inspection)	7	N/A	N/A
Unit 17: Re-establish existing gas Supply and relight appliances	7	7	N/A
<b>Total:</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>105</b>

## Certificate of training

A certificate of training will be issued if a candidate can meet the requirements laid down within the training specification document.

**NB.** For a full and comprehensive specification relevant to the NICEIC Certification Domestic EGC, approved to IGEM/IG/1 please see a copy of the "NICEIC elementary gas certificate for domestic metering (I&M) engineers training programme specification".