



# Winter Service



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[www.skillstrainingcentre.co.uk](http://www.skillstrainingcentre.co.uk)



## TRAINING PROGRAMMES

A cost effective way of ensuring that winter service operations are being carried out safely and correctly, is to ensure that operatives, supervisors and managers are adequately trained and assessed.

In relation to required competence levels, the Institute of Civil Engineers Design and Practice Guide recommends that all drivers salting or ploughing on roads must be trained and successfully assessed in accordance with the City & Guilds qualification standards.

The Skills Training Centre offers a comprehensive range of training and assessment for the City & Guilds 6159: Winter Service Operations qualification. Our experienced trainers/assessors put staff at ease and ensure they have sufficient knowledge to enable them to operate safely and effectively. We can also provide training and assessment for Winter Service operational supervisors.

### CITY & GUILDS 6159: WINTER SERVICE OPERATIONS QUALIFICATION

The City & Guilds qualification ensures that your staff are assessed to nationally agreed standards. The award has been specifically developed for winter maintenance staff responsible for the driving and operation of:

- ▶ Highways Agency winter service vehicles & snow blowers
- ▶ Local authority/contractor winter service vehicles & snow blowers
- ▶ National Assembly for Wales winter service vehicles & snow blowers
- ▶ Supervisors responsible for front line winter service operations

The qualification is divided in to various categories of winter service vehicles.

In order to qualify for the award, an operative must pass Unit 580 (Health & Safety) and at least one of the following other units: 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 540, 550, 560 or 570. Alternatively an operative must pass Unit 590 (Health & Safety) and at least one unit out of 516, 517 & 518 or Unit 510 (Health & Safety) and at least one unit out of 522, 523 & 524.

Please note, Units 590, 516, 517 & 518 cover the vehicles and ploughs only and do not include spreading and units 510, 522, 523 & 524 are for off-Highway equipment only.

In order to qualify for the award, a supervisor must pass Unit 521: Winter Service Supervision & Monitoring.

#### 6159 Winter Service Operations, Vehicle, Spreading Applications and Snowplough

**511** Prepare and operate winter service vehicles and equipment up to 3500kg: to include agricultural tractors.

**512** Prepare and operate winter service vehicles and equipment from 3500kg to 7500kg: medium LGV.

**513** Prepare and operate winter service vehicles and equipment over 7500kg: large LGV.

**515** Prepare and operate Highways Agency dedicated winter service vehicles

**540** Prepare and operate National Assembly for Wales dedicated Winter Service Vehicles.

**550** Prepare and operate Highways Agency dedicated Rolba 400 or 1000 series snow-blower

**560** Prepare and operate dedicated snow-blowers

**570** Prepare and operate de-mountable snow-blower

**580** Winter service operations health and safety

**521** Winter service supervisor/manager

#### 6159 Winter Service Operations, Vehicle and Snowplough

**516** Vehicles under 3,500KG, Including Agricultural tractors

**517** Vehicles from 3,500kg to 7,500kg

**518** Vehicles over 7,500kg

**590** Winter Service Operations, Vehicle and Snowplough Health and Safety

#### 6159 Winter Service Operations – Off Highway equipment

**522** Winter Service Operations under 3,500kgs, including agricultural tractors (Off highway)

**523** Prepare and operate winter service vehicles and equipment from 3500kg to 7500kg: medium LGV (Off highway)

**524** Prepare and operate winter service vehicles and equipment over 7500kg: large LGV (Off highway)

**510** Winter service operations health and safety (Off highway)

#### Endorsement

**111** Spreader – fixed/demountable

**212** Spreader – towed

**313** Snowplough angle/vee blade

**414** Brine application (Unit 013 only where assessed)

## TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT

Skills Training Centre staff deliver all training and assessment on your site with your own vehicles/equipment.

## EXPERIENCED STAFF

If you have experienced staff, they will need to attend a one day training and assessment programme for Unit 580: Health & Safety. We can take up to eight delegates per day on this programme. This is followed by an assessment day using a winter service vehicle appropriate to the category being assessed. In accordance with City & Guilds standards, a maximum of two people on one category or one person on two categories can be assessed on each day.

## NEW OR INEXPERIENCED STAFF

If your staff have little or no winter service experience, they will need to attend a one day training and assessment programme for Unit 580: Health & Safety. We can take up to eight delegates per day on this programme. This will normally be followed by a one day training programme using the vehicle/equipment that they will be required to operate for the assessment.

We recommend a maximum of three delegates per training day to ensure staff are given sufficient practical experience prior to their assessment. Training is followed by an assessment day using a winter service vehicle appropriate to the category being assessed.

In accordance with City & Guilds standards, a maximum of two people on one category or one person on two categories can be assessed on each day.

## IMPORTANT

Staff qualified in a higher category vehicle are not automatically qualified to drive lower category vehicles. Staff should be assessed for each category of winter service vehicle they are expected to operate.

Practical assessments must be completed within 12 months of successful completion of unit 580. Where this timeline has been exceeded a candidate must re-take unit 580 again before any practical assessment. Any units added to a full qualification prior to the 5 year expiry period will not require the candidate to re-take unit 580.

## LICENCING

On successfully completing the assessment process, delegates will be awarded a City & Guilds certificate and/or a certificate of unit credit. Those operating Winter Service vehicles on behalf of the Highways Agency are also required to be registered with the North East Regional Employers Organisation (NEREO) for a Winter Maintenance Licence. The licence is available as an option to all staff operating other categories of Winter Service vehicles.



## UNIT 580: HEALTH & SAFETY

This programme is aimed at both existing Winter Service Operatives, who need re-assessment to re-new their registration, and for new or inexperienced operatives who are seeking registration for the first time.

### CONTENT

- ▶ Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- ▶ Management of Health & Safety at Work regulations
- ▶ Provision and Use of Work Equipment regulations
- ▶ Personal Protective Equipment regulations
- ▶ Manual Handling regulations
- ▶ Noise at Work regulations
- ▶ First Aid at Work regulations
- ▶ Control of Substances Hazardous to Health regulations
- ▶ Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences regulations
- ▶ The Health & Safety (safety, signs and signals) regulations
- ▶ Winter maintenance risk assessment
- ▶ Working practices
- ▶ Drivers' duties and pre-start checks
- ▶ Drivers' hours and working hours
- ▶ Use of de-icing materials on the highway
- ▶ De-icing operations
- ▶ Emergency procedures
- ▶ Snow clearing at Level Crossings
- ▶ Snow ploughing
- ▶ Loading plant
- ▶ Vehicle familiarisation
- ▶ Plough fitting – theory



## UNIT 521: WINTER SERVICE OPERATIONS SUPERVISION & MONITORING

This programme has been developed to ensure that Winter Service Supervisors are assessed against health and safety and other duties that relate to the delivery of effective winter service operations. This unit is a stand-alone unit that is available to those involved in the supervision and monitoring of winter service operations.

### CONTENT

- ▶ Current Health & Safety Legislation relating to winter service operations
- ▶ Operators checks and defect reporting
- ▶ Winter Service Vehicles and Equipment
- ▶ Rates of spread for de-icing materials
- ▶ Use of de-icing materials
- ▶ Emergency procedures
- ▶ Drivers' hours and working time
- ▶ Environmental considerations
- ▶ Terminology
- ▶ Winter Service Policy
- ▶ Contents of a Winter Service Policy
- ▶ Winter service operational planning, monitoring and review
- ▶ Methods used in decision making
- ▶ Qualifications available for Winter Service Operations
- ▶ Use of data logging



### RENEWAL

Re-qualification is required every 5 years.

### WHAT TO DO NEXT

If you would like to discuss your organisations Winter Service training and assessment requirements please contact us to discuss. We will be happy to explain the requirements of the qualification and assist you in putting in place a programme that is relevant to your staff and the vehicles/equipment that you are required to operate.