

RSPH Level 1 Award in Asbestos Awareness

January 2020

Guided Learning **4 hours**
Total Qualification Time **4 hours**

Ofqual Qualification Number 601/8309/3

Description

The *Control of Asbestos Regulations* requires employers to ensure that their employees receive adequate information, instruction and training relating to the risks due to asbestos if they are liable to be exposed to this material. The objective of this qualification is to help employers meet this requirement by explaining to learners the effects of asbestos on the health of individuals, the types of material likely to contain asbestos, the location of these materials within buildings, and procedures for minimising the risk of asbestos fibre release.

Holders of this qualification will be better able to ensure that their work activities do not result in the release and exposure to asbestos fibres.

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Unit: Asbestos Awareness

Guided Learning: 4 hours

Total Qualification Time: 4 hours

Unit Level: 1

Unit Reference No. J/508/0128

Summary of Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a candidate must:

1. **Know the properties, uses and risks to health of asbestos in premises, with reference to:**
 - the properties of asbestos.
 - the risks to health caused by exposure to asbestos.
 - the use of sprayed asbestos
 - the use of asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board
 - the use of asbestos cement.
 - the use of other asbestos containing materials

2. **Understand the risks of exposure to asbestos and methods for controlling that risk, with reference to:**
 - the risks and controls for sprayed asbestos
 - the risks and controls for asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board
 - the risks and controls for asbestos cement.
 - the risks and controls for other asbestos containing materials
 - licensing requirements for work to be carried out
 - asbestos management plans
 - the suitability of different types of asbestos survey for undertaking works
 - types of protective equipment and emergency procedures
 - the liabilities and responsibilities of individuals, employers and duty holders concerning asbestos.

Candidates successfully achieving this unit will have basic factual knowledge of the risks of asbestos in the workplace and/or knowledge of facts, procedures and ideas to complete well-defined routine tasks and address simple problems; and is aware of aspects of information relevant to asbestos in the workplace.

Content:

1. **Properties, Uses and Risk to Health of asbestos in premises**

Properties of asbestos: blue, white and brown asbestos; properties of these materials which made them valuable to the construction industry.

Risk to health: asbestos related diseases: mesothelioma; asbestosis; lung cancer; risk of developing disease; incubation periods; amount of exposure required to cause disease; effect of other risk factors such as smoking.

Use of sprayed asbestos: uses of sprayed asbestos in buildings; locations in a building where sprayed asbestos is likely to be found; age of buildings in which sprayed asbestos is likely to be found

Use of asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board: uses of asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board in buildings; locations in a building where asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board is likely to be found; age of buildings in which asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board is likely to be found.

Use of asbestos cement: uses of asbestos cement in buildings; locations in a building where asbestos cement is likely to be found; age of buildings in which asbestos cement is likely to be found.

Use of other asbestos containing materials: use of other asbestos containing materials in buildings; locations in a building where these materials are likely to be found; age of buildings in which these materials are likely to be found

2. **Risk to exposure, methods for controlling that risk and legal requirements**

Risks and controls for sprayed asbestos: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from sprayed asbestos coatings; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre release from sprayed asbestos coatings; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Risks and controls for asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre release from asbestos insulation and asbestos insulating board; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Risks and controls for asbestos cement: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from asbestos cement; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre release from asbestos cement; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Risks and controls for other asbestos containing materials: activities likely to cause the release of asbestos fibres from other asbestos containing materials; work practices to reduce the risk of asbestos fibre

release from these materials; use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment.

Work that requires a licence: work on asbestos containing materials that requires a licence; work that can be carried out without a licence; work that can be carried out if advance notice is given to the enforcing authority; qualifications, training and experience required to obtain a licence.

Asbestos management plans: purpose of asbestos management plans; role of duty holder; importance of asbestos management plan to individuals carrying out maintenance and construction work; access to the asbestos management plan.

Suitability of asbestos surveys: Management Surveys and Refurbishment and Demolition surveys; outline of each type of survey; purpose and use of surveys; suitability of surveys for work to be undertaken.

Protective equipment and emergency procedures: legal requirements relating to the use of personal protective equipment and respiratory protective equipment; need for emergency procedures.

Liabilities and responsibilities of individuals, employers and duty holders: responsibilities of employers and duty holders to employees under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 or any superseding legislation, regulations and amendments; liabilities of duty holder, employer and employee if exposure to asbestos is not controlled; requirement of, and responsibility for, training.

Assessment:

The knowledge and understanding of the candidates will be assessed by a multiple-choice examination. The multiple choice examination is provided by RSPH. A candidate who is able to satisfy the learning outcomes will achieve a score of at least 10 out of 15 in the examination. The qualification is graded as Pass or Fail. Strong performance in some areas of the qualification content may compensate for poorer performance in other areas.

The examination consists of 15 questions. The duration of the examination is twenty minutes.

Guidance:

Progression:

Learners who achieve this qualification can progress to:

- RSPH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace

Recommended Reading:

Managing and working with asbestos. Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 Approved Code of Practice and guidance L143 (Second edition) Published 2013	HSE 2013
A Comprehensive Guide to Managing Asbestos in Premises (HSG 227)	HSE 2002
Managing Asbestos in buildings A brief guide	HSE 2012
Asbestos Essentials - A task manual for building, maintenance and allied trades of non-licensed asbestos work	HSE 2012
Asbestos: The survey guide	HSE 2012
Asbestos: The analysts' guide for sampling, analysis and clearance procedures	HSE 2005
Asbestos: The licensed contractors' guide HSG 247	HSE 2006

Recommended Additional Reading:

Asbestos and Man-Made Mineral Fibres In Buildings. Practical Guidance	Thomas Telford 1999
Asbestos: RICS Guidance Note: Implications for members and their clients.	RICS Books 2003
Asbestos for Surveyors	Estates Gazette 2004

The following web-sites also have useful information:

Asbestos Removal Contractors Association www.arca.org.uk

Health and Safety Executive www.hse.gov.uk

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors www.rics.org.uk

Special Assessment Needs:

Centres that have candidates with special assessment needs should consult RSPH's *Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration* policy, this is available from RSPH and RSPH's web site (www.rsph.org.uk).

Recommended Qualifications and Experience of Tutors:

RSPH would expect that tutors have teaching experience and a qualification in a relevant subject area, but recognises that experienced teachers can often compensate for a lack of initial subject knowledge, or experienced practitioners for a lack of teaching experience.

Other Information:

All RSPH specifications are subject to review. Any changes to the assessment or learning outcomes will be notified to Centres in advance of their introduction. To check the currency of this version of the specification, please contact the Qualifications Department or consult the RSPH website.

Centres must be registered with RSPH.

Any enquiries about this qualification should be made to:

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