

Off Road Vehicle Operating (4x4)

Product code:

A4X4001

Summary / introduction:

Two certificate options have been designed to support operators with off road vehicle operating (4x4) safely for work related purposes. The course will take place using suitable off road areas.

Certificate option 1: Principles of Off Road Vehicle Operating is designed for users of 4x4s who will only tackle basic off road obstacles and will always avoid more severe threats and weather conditions. Assessment is on a limited range of obstacles with a lower threshold of acceptable threat/risk.

Certificate option 2: Operating Vehicles in Off Road Adverse Conditions is designed for users of 4x4s who may seek to tackle some more severe obstacles and sometimes in poor weather conditions. Assessment is over a range of obstacles, identifying and managing risks in a practical manner making reasonable use of vehicular and driver capabilities as appropriate.

Note: If a learner has been booked on the Operating Vehicles in Off Road Adverse Conditions certificate option, the instructor may indicate the Principles of Off Road Vehicle Operating as a more appropriate certificate option as a result of the learning programme/learner requirements.

Each option can also be organised and delivered as refresher programme. The refresher is designed for users who have previously received accredited training in 4x4 off road vehicle operating. Emphasis will be made on the sessions where additional training is a requirement. Assessment will be in line with either certificate option 1 or 2; on a range of obstacles, identifying and managing risks in a practical manner making reasonable use of vehicular and driver capabilities. Refresher training/assessment may be triggered by:

- 5 years elapsing from the completion of prior certification
- time elapsed guided by user risk assessment
- a response to an incident or a near miss
- receipt of a new vehicle.

Target audience:

This product is designed for anyone:

- Operating an off road vehicle in an off road environment; typically, 4x4 vehicles but possibly 6x4, 6x6 vehicles etc.
- Wishing to update their skills in off road vehicle operating (4x4) and/or satisfy health and safety legislation regarding the safe use of 4x4 off road vehicle operating at work.

Note: Smaller off road vehicles such as ATVs and some larger/heavier and specialist vehicles such as tractors are catered for with different Lantra Awards training courses.

Duration/timing

The following duration/timing is for guidance and will be determined by the outcome of the training needs assessment (prequalifying) of the learner ahead of organising the appropriate course:

- Certificate option 1: Principles of Off Road Vehicle Operating: One day = 8 hours (7 hours contact time)
 - Refresher programme*: minimum 4 hours (3.5 hours contact time)
- Certificate option 2: Operating Vehicles in Off Road Adverse Conditions: Two days = 16 hours (14 hours contact time)
 - Refresher programme*: minimum 8 hours (7 hours contact time).

The course can be held at any time of the year providing ground conditions are suitable. Duration/timing is based on a learner being able to demonstrate they are already competent in basic driving skills. A means of demonstrating the latter could be with a valid category B driving licence.

*For shorter duration programmes the learner must evidence prior 4x4 off road vehicle operating training certification or equivalent.

Ratios

Instructor : learner Max 1:3

Vehicle : learner 1:1 for practical driving

Description:

This course will include the following sessions:

- Introduction
- Health and safety
- Attributes of vehicles and systems

- Attributes of obstacles
- Attributes of operators
- Vehicle checks and preparation
- Basic operating techniques
- Vehicle recovery, safety briefing
- Off Road to on road checks.

Additional learning needs

Providers must make suitable provision to ensure an accurate assessment is carried out to the task in hand, rather than the learner's abilities in other fields. Instructors should be fully aware of the requirement to cross-check any learner's additional learning needs identified through the training provider.

Additional information

Where learners do not have the appropriate personal protective equipment and appropriate tools/equipment, instructors should not undertake the training. Instructors have the autonomy to make the decision on whether a course and/or learner(s) should commence/continue if any of the facilities and equipment are not suitable or available or if the safety of any person is compromised.

Site

4x4 training/assessment must be completed on a suitable off road site.

It is acknowledged that environments will differ between sites as a result of different terrain and weather conditions; irrespective of these differences, the two main requirements of conducting this training/assessment are:

1. to facilitate the Lantra Awards off road vehicle operating (4x4) product objectives
2. that obstacles need to be reasonably relevant to the learner's own user case.

The obstacles need to be severe enough to enable identification of the nature of threats in each case. Where both the learner and the instructor are satisfied about suitability, then it should generally be possible to conduct some or all of the training in the learner's own vehicle.

Training should be carried out on private land with the land owner's permission, avoiding any public rights of way.

Learner profiling

These questions and responses will support Providers in identifying the appropriate certification target for Off Road Vehicle Operating (4x4) training.

1. Does the operator ever need to consider operating in severe weather or consider tackling severe obstacles or steep slopes?

Yes = Operating Vehicles in Off Road Adverse Conditions, will be the appropriate certificate option.

No = Principles of Off Road Vehicle Operating, may be the appropriate certificate option.

1. From previous training or practice in operating vehicles in off road conditions, does the operator have familiarity with off road vehicle systems and skills in judging how different obstacles challenge vehicle control?

Yes = shorter duration training may be appropriate.

No = normal duration training may be appropriate.

Please note that neither duration option is a guarantee that any individual operator/learner will be assessed as competent. Duration suggestions are simply a guide to expectations.

Facilities and equipment requirements

It is the specific responsibility of the training provider, in consultation with the instructor, to ensure risk assessments have been carried out and with the host, instructor and learner, that all of the following items will be available and are suitable for the training prior to the course commencing.

The training provider is responsible for advising learners of the equipment they must bring on the course.

Venue/site

- A suitable off road 4x4 site appropriate to the training/assessment requirements of the learner (see section on additional information; site)
- Room type and size: warm, dry, well-lit and undercover with adequate space for all learners to undertake theory and practical work (where applicable)
- Emergency exits, clear and marked
- Washing and toilet facilities: separate facilities for male and female learners
- Ventilation: should be adequate
- Lighting: should be suitable for reading
- Heating: maintain a 'shirt sleeve' environment

- Access and exits: should be safe, well-lit and suitable for people with special needs
- Cleanliness: maintain a clean, tidy and hygienic environment
- Noise: consider whether there is any noise that may distract learners
- First aid kit in place
- Emergency procedure in place
- Fire extinguishers in place
- Spill kit appropriate for vehicles present
- Vehicle wash down area and suitable facilities
- A4 weather protected, emergency contact sheet
- Tyre pressure gauge and pump
- Vehicle recovery system/resources (consult Instructor)
- Advisable - any other tools and materials that might be required following vehicle inspection and daily checks (consult Instructor).

Vehicle

- Suitable 4x4 vehicle (appropriate to learner requirements):
 - Learner's own vehicles must be checked by the instructor, to make sure that they are safe and appropriate for the course
- The 4x4 vehicle must be fit for purpose, complying with current regulations, Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations, and maintained in a suitable condition:
 - A currently road legal vehicle should be suitable
 - If not road legal or MOT tested then another equivalent auditable evidence of vehicle integrity/suitability for use e.g. qualified mechanics inspection report
- Forward facing seats for all occupants
- Seat belts fitted compliant with current regulations for all occupants
- Accessible towing/recovery points
- Manufacturer's owner's manual specific to the vehicle(s) present.

Provider

- Gloves to protect the learner against sharps and grease, etc.
- Ensure all learners have been able to demonstrate to you that they are already competent in basic driving skills ahead of organising the course
- Ensure you have discussed the learner's user case/suitability of vehicles with the learner's representative and instructor prior to the course.

Instructor

- Course paperwork
- Method of communication (such as mobile phone or landline)
- Familiar with site emergency procedures.

Learner

- Suitable clothing and shoes (closed toe) appropriate to the activities and weather
- Gloves to protect the learner against sharps and grease, etc. (if available).

Product objectives:

At the end of this course the learner will be able to:

- comply with legal requirements and safe practice
- identify risks associated with off road vehicle use
- select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- understand the main causes of accidents
- identify the controls, systems and components of the vehicle
- perform pre-start checks
- identify and report faults
- prepare the vehicle for use off road
- assess the suitability of the ground/route
- make structured decisions about if and how to tackle obstacles
- perform a failed hill climb
- drive over a variety of terrain
- perform an on-site risk assessment
- identify the loading/towing capacities
- understand legal and practical requirements for travelling on a public road
- identify the dangers of vehicle recovery/self-recovery
- demonstrate decision making skills based on considering the attributes of:
 - the obstacle/situation
 - the vehicle
 - the driver.

Course / product type:

Assessment type:

Course / product delivery:

Language:

Duration:

Min number of learners:

Max number of learners:

Category:

Integrated Training & Assessment

Assessed - Practical

Theory and practical based

English

4 hours + (see notes on duration/timing)

1

3

Operating Vehicles and Attachments

4x4 Driving Skills