

ecta

Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)

Information for prospective learners



What is Smart Metering and why would I want to train to be a Smart Meter Installer?

The government have set a target of 50 million Smart gas and electric meters to be installed in over 27 million homes by 2020. In order to reach these targets, the energy providers will require many more meter installers, making this an amazing opportunity for those who want to get into the Gas and/or Electrics industries.

As detailed in the information to the right, 2016 is set to be the year in which the smart meter installation rollout begins in earnest, and demand for qualified meter installers can only increase.

Whether you are already a qualified gas engineer or electrician looking to upskill, or new to the industry, ECTA offer nationally recognised qualifications which will prepare you for a new career as a Smart Meter Installer.

In addition, the Gas programme offered at ECTA will give you the foundation for a career in the Gas industry after the Smart Meter rollout ends, by including ACS domestic gas metering qualifications recognised by Gas Safe Register (CMA1 & MET1). These qualifications provide the basis for you to upskill to work on additional gas appliances later on, giving you a long term future in the industry.

Further information on Smart Meters and the Smart Meter Rollout can be found on the following websites:

www.smartenergygb.org

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/smart-meters-how-they-work>

Information on the role of Smart Meter Installer:

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobprofiles/Pages/smartmeterinstaller.aspx>

Installation stage

2016 - 2020

The smart meter rollout really gets going in 2016.

The gas and electricity suppliers are responsible for planning and delivering smart meter installation. They can do this however suits their customers and business best, but they must meet the Government's overall timescale and targets along the way.

All the energy suppliers have different plans for smart meter installation, depending on factors like the location of their main customer base.

The Department of Energy and Climate Change will manage the implementation of the programme, and monitor its progress.

The energy regulator Ofgem is responsible for making sure consumers are protected during the installation phase (and beyond). They'll ensure that the energy suppliers stick to the standards set out in the Smart Metering Installation Code of Practice (SMICOP).

Installation projections

The Government expects that smart meter installation will accelerate sharply in 2016, when all the common standards come into force and include around 20 million meters fitted between 2016 and 2018, peak in 2019 and finish in 2020

(Above extract taken from www.smartenergygb.org)

Qualification Description

On successful completion of the qualification, you will be able to:

1. Install and commission low pressure natural gas smart meters up to 6.0 cubic metres per hour capacity
2. Install and change single phase power (electrical) meters
3. Install and commission communication systems for smart meters
4. Carry out related work safely
5. Communicate effectively with customers

The course consists of 10 mandatory units, as listed below:

- L/502/9858 - Working Practices in the Energy & Utilities Sector
- A/502/9855 - Working Safely in the Energy & Utilities Sector
- J/503/0233 - Using and Communicating Technical Information in the Energy & Utilities Sector.
- F/503/0231 - Install & Commission Communication Systems.
- F/502/9856 - Delivering Customer Services when working in the Energy & Utilities Sector
- M/600/3988 - Install single phase meter & associated equipment
- A/600/3993 - Change single phase meter & associated equipment
- K/503/0256 - Applied practices & principles for installing low pressure Natural Gas Smart Meters up to U6.
- J/502/9857 - Low pressure Gas Smart Meter tightness testing & direct purging.
- F/503/0232 - Prepare, install& commission low pressure Natural Gas Smart Meter & regulator up to 6.0m³/hr

The course is spread over 5 weeks in centre, with the first week concentrating on Safe working practices (specific to the company you will be completing your work placement with), Customer Service and Smart Communication systems. The skills and knowledge gained in this first week will be reinforced throughout the training programme and work placement.

The second week concentrates on Power meters, and includes basic electrical theory and skills, such as cutting and stripping cable, understanding wiring diagrams, and electrical safety. Also covered during this week are changing and installing electric meters and testing of electrical systems, and topics such as cross polarity.

The third to fifth week are gas focused, and provide you with the knowledge and skills (such as pipework & tightness testing) to be able to install domestic gas meters.



The course consists of training both in the classroom and in our practical workshop areas, allowing you to practice and demonstrate the skills you have learned. Formative assessments (both practical and theory) will be carried out over the 5 week training period to ensure you are making satisfactory progress, and we will constantly monitor you and provide feedback.

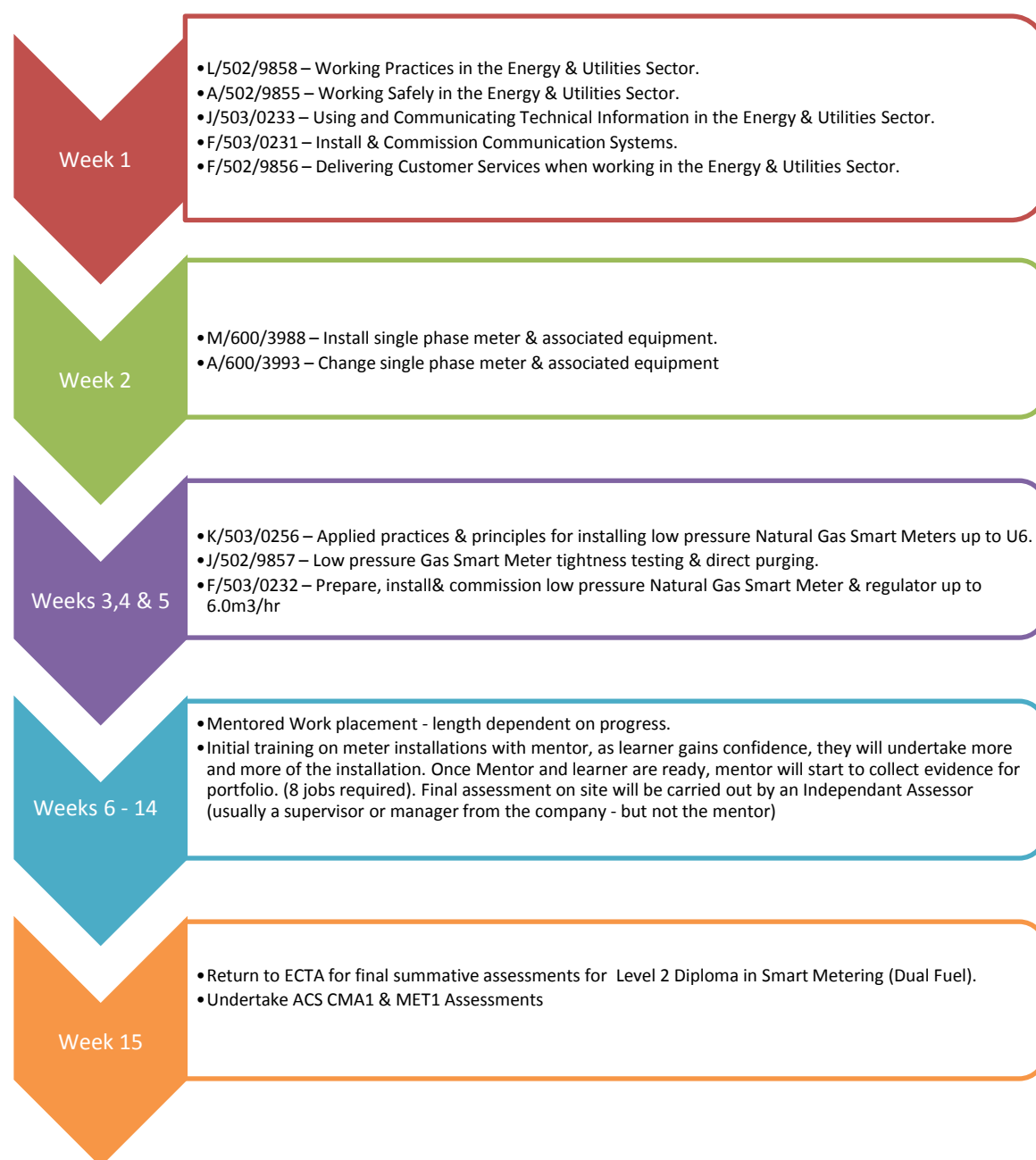
Once you have the basic skills and knowledge, your training will continue on the work placement. Under the supervision of your mentor, you will begin your placement by watching the mentor complete installations, gradually taking over certain tasks until you are completing the installations under supervision by your mentor. When you are both happy with your progress, you will start to record the installations in your portfolio, and these count as evidence for the on site part of the qualification. After 8 completed installations under the supervision of your mentor, an Independent assessment will be done on site - this is usually carried out by a manager or supervisor of the meter installation company. The work placement will last approximately 8 weeks. Then you come back in to the centre for your final assessments. Throughout the course, you will undertake 17 written assessment papers, as well a final practical assessment.

During the final week, you will also take the ACS qualifications CMA1 & MET1, which are qualifications recognised by Gas Safe Register, and will allow you at a later date (and with some additional training) to extend your scope of work to cover other types of gas work, such as Domestic Central Heating Boilers and Gas fires, should you wish to do so.



Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)

The schedule of the Smart Metering (Dual Fuel) qualification is detailed below. This is a full time programme of study, and involves classroom based training, practical workshop training, home study and a supervised work placement which will be organised by Runrec Metering Recruitment - our preferred partner. The course is assessed by means of written question papers, practical assessments and a portfolio of work carried out during the mentored work placement. Summative assessments for the Level 2 Diploma and the ACS CMA1 & MET1 are completed in the final week of the programme.



The cost of the course is £5,500 + VAT, and includes training, assessments, registration/certification fees and training materials. Tools and PPE are provided for use in the centre by ECTA, and will be made available by the company providing the work placement for use on site during the placement.

Why Train with ECTA?

ecta

Founded in 2005, ECTA have been training in the Gas, Electrics, Renewables and Water industries for over 10 years, and have a proven track record of delivering quality training to companies both large and small throughout the UK.

Our 16,000sqft training centre in Stockport, Cheshire is dedicated to offering the best resources and facilities possible, and our dedicated Smart Metering training rooms offer a wide range of scenarios to prepare you for

the realities of working in real-life situations.



Our staff have personal experience of working in the industries they teach, giving a extra dimension to our training programmes.

We've been training the pros for years, and some of the biggest companies in the UK trust us to train their teams. We are always adding extra courses, to cover new sectors and the latest innovations.

What our customers say about us!

"The course was tough to do, but with an excellent trainer and equipment available, it was enjoyable and the overall atmosphere very friendly" Mr Coulter, Isle of Man

"Just a note to say how impressed I was with the facilities, equipment and quality of training provided on my recent course. Having been in the gas industry for over 40 years, I was really impressed with the depth of knowledge displayed by both the training and assessment teams. You're never too old to learn they say and I certainly learned a lot. Also, Special thanks to the lovely administration team, who made everything run so smoothly, nothing was too much trouble and they made the whole process stress free, from the moment I first enquired, right through to the end. Thank You!

As an employer myself, I realise how important quality Staff are to a business and ECTA should be extremely proud of their team.

I can highly recommend and would I book again, "Yes most definitely!" I'm already looking through the vast range of courses on offer" Peter Lamb, Harding Building Services Ltd

For the breaks during your course, we have a canteen area serving free tea & coffee, and pool table. Free parking is available in our carpark. We are just 5 minutes from Junction 27 on the M60, and close to major rail links. You can take a tour of the centre on our website at www.ectatraining.co.uk/contact/ .

What qualifications or experience do I need to get on the course?

The logo for ecta, consisting of the word "ecta" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, enclosed within a yellow rounded rectangle.

There are no prerequisite qualifications required to enter the programme. However, we will expect you to undergo a vetting process before you book on the course to ensure you meet the requirements of the meter installation company supplying the work placement. You will be required to:

- Hold a Full UK driving licence (6 points or less)
- Prove your eligibility to work in the UK
- Undergo a CRB check
- Hold a minimum of 4 GCSEs (or equivalent) at grade C and above (to include Maths & English)

There is an initial assessment process before you can book on the course which will ask for details on your work experience and qualifications. You may also be required to take a Skills check. This initial assessment will also be used to determine if there is any Recognised Prior Learning which can be taken into account (and potentially reduce the duration of training required) as well as assessing your suitability for the course and ensuring you understand what will be required of you in order to complete the qualification.

Need more information?

If you want some further information, you can contact us:

- By phone on 0161 480 5656
- By email hello@ectatraining.co.uk
- Through our website www.ectatraining.co.uk
- In person: 1st Floor Hadfield House, Gordon Street, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 1RR

Some websites which may be of interest are:

www.smartenergygb.org

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/smart-meters-how-they-work>

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobprofiles/Pages/smartmeterinstaller.aspx>

<https://www.britishgas.co.uk/smarter-living/control-energy/smart-meters.html>

<https://www.eonenergy.com/for-your-home/smart-meters>

http://careers.g4s.com/jobs/Meter-Installer-Dual-Fuel_58354/