

Smart Meter training that gives you extra

Become a Smart Meter Installer

Your exciting and rewarding new career



ecta



Why become a Smart Meter Installer?

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. In order to reach these targets, energy providers will require many more meter installers, making this an amazing opportunity for you to start a new career in the Gas & Electrics Industries.

2017 is set to be the year in which the smart meter installation roll-out really begins, and demand for qualified meter installers can only increase. Whatever your background, ECTA offer nationally recognised qualifications, which will prepare you for a new career as a Smart Meter Installer.

ECTA are working with several meter installation companies across the UK. On application, we will place you with a company who is actively recruiting in your area, and this company will provide your mentored work placement.

This means that, if you successfully pass the course and meet the recruiting company's criteria, they will offer you a full time permanent position on completion. Salaries and packages differ between companies, so please contact us for specific information on what is available in your area.

Installation stage

The smart meter roll-out began in 2016, with the gas and electricity suppliers being responsible for planning and delivering smart meter installation. They can do this in whichever way suits their customers and business best, but they must meet the Government's overall timescale and targets along the way. It's worth noting that 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).



Smart Meter Installation Course

Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)

Learners will work towards a full Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel), which on successful completion, will allow them to install both Gas & Electric Smart Meters.

- Aimed at new entrants to the industry
- For those wishing to install Gas and Power Meters

Process

- Once you have made the decision to change your career, contact us for an application form. We will ask you to complete it, and send it back with your CV.
- ECTA will assess your application against the list of requirements from our Meter installation companies, and pass your details on to the client who best fits you. This is mainly dependent on location.
- You may need to attend an initial assessment with us, an interview with the employer, or have a telephone interview, depending on which company you have been matched with.
- Once the initial application procedure has been finalised, we will confirm your course booking, and you will attend ECTA for the initial 5 week training period. Payment in full is required for the course on booking.
- Then, you will go out with the meter installation company to complete your portfolio on site, under supervision of a qualified Smart Meter engineer. This can take between 4 – 8 weeks, depending on your progress.
- Once your portfolio is complete, you will attend ECTA for a week of final assessments.
- On successful completion, you will be ready to start work as a fully qualified Dual Fuel Smart Meter Installer!

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

- Install and commission low pressure natural gas smart meters up to 6 cubic meters per hour capacity
- Install and change single phase power (electric) meters
- Install and commission smart communication systems for meters
- Carry out related works safely
- Communicate effectively with customers

“Just finished my training on installing electronic smart meters, very impressed with the training centre.”

Let's talk money...

Salary

Salaries and packages differ between employers, with some offering a higher salary, but some offering competitive bonus schemes, however you can expect to achieve an OTE of between £24k - £40k per annum.

There is also plenty of opportunity for progression – with such a shortage of Dual Fuel engineers in the industry, chances exist for advancement into supervisory or management roles once you have gained some experience.

Funding

You will be expected to fund the course yourself, £5,500 + VAT, however some employers are offering a basic wage once you start your mentoring period.

All PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) and tools will be provided, and you can expect a company vehicle once you have passed and started work with your new employer.

Accommodation

We understand that the cost of the course, and in some cases, the cost of sourcing accommodation for the training with ECTA in Stockport can be daunting.

But don't worry, accommodation in Stockport is available from £18 per night, making the total cost of accommodation for 6 weeks at 4 nights a week around £432.

We can provide details of accommodation for varying budgets, just drop us an email or give us a call...
hello@ectatraining.co.uk
or 0161 480 5656

Finance

There are various financing options available. You might consider applying for a loan through your bank – some banks have specific loans available for training purposes.

Alternatively, you could apply for a personal loan through...
www.ideal4finance.com

Ideal4Finance is a licenced credit broker, who can offer loans through a range of lenders.

Take care

Please think before securing other debts against your home. Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or any other debt secured on it.

Representative Finance example

Course £5,500 + VAT...

- Total Loan: £6,600
- Loan duration 48 months
- Monthly repayment £151.40*
- Total Interest Repayable £667.20*
- Total amount repayable £7267.20*
- Rates from 4.8% variable
- Typical 17.9% APR representative

*Based on 4.8%. Please note that APR is based on credit history and individual lender criteria.

"My Smart Meter course was enjoyable due to the way it was delivered. Great trainer, bags of knowledge, and a top place to learn."

Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)

The schedule of the Smart Metering (Dual Fuel) qualification is detailed here.

This is a full time programme of study, and involves classroom based training, practical workshop training, home study and a mentored work placement which will be organised by our specialist partnered recruitment companies.

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 and MET1 are completed in the final week of the programme.

This course is designed for New Entrants to the Industry.

Week 1

- **L/502/9858** – Working Practices in the Energy and Utilities Sector
- **A/502/9855** – Working Safely in the Energy and Utilities Sector
- **J/503/0233** – Using and Communicating Technical Information in the Energy and Utilities Sector
- **F/503/0231** – Install and Commission Communication Systems
- **F/502/9856** – Delivering Customer Services when working in the Energy and Utilities Sector

Week 2

- **M/600/3988** – Install single phase meter and associated equipment
- **A/600/3993** – Change single phase meter and associated equipment

Weeks 3 - 5

- **K/503/0256** – Applied practices and principles for installing low pressure Natural Gas Smart Meters up to U6
- **J/502/9857** – Low pressure Gas Smart Meter tightness testing and direct purging
- **F/503/0232** – Prepare, install and commission low pressure Natural Gas Smart Meter and regulator up to 6.0m³/hr

Weeks 6 - 14 (approx)

- Mentored Work placement - length dependent on progress
- Initial training on meter installations with mentor, as learner gains confidence, they will undertake more and more of the installation. Once Mentor and learner are ready, mentor will start to collect evidence

for portfolio. (8 jobs required). Final assessment on site will be carried out by an Independent Assessor (usually a supervisor or manager from the company - but not the mentor)

Final Assessment Week

- Return to ECTA for final summative assessments for Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)
- Undertake ACS CMA1 and MET1 Assessments

"The course was challenging, but very enjoyable. The atmosphere was supportive and friendly."

John Coulter

Why train with ECTA?

Founded in 2005, we have been training in the Gas, Electrics, Renewables and Water industries for over 10 years.

Industry expertise

We have a proven track record of delivering quality training to companies both large and small throughout the UK. Our 16,000 sq ft training centre in Stockport 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 team have personal experience of working in the industries they teach, giving an 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, which all means you'll be getting great quality training to set you up for a rewarding future.

Free parking is available in our car park. 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

"I was really impressed with the depth of knowledge displayed by both the training and assessment teams. I highly recommend."

Peter Lamb



Prerequisites

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

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 (Restrictions apply for candidates with excessive penalty points.)
- 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 and English)

There is an initial assessment process before you can book on the course that will ask for details on your work experience and qualifications. You may also be required to take a Skills check.

We will ask you to complete an application form and send us your CV, so we can place you with the best employer for you. You may be required to attend an interview with ECTA, or sometimes with the employer who will be providing your mentor placement, and on successful completion, a full time permanent position.

Some useful further reading

www.smartenergygb.org

www.gov.uk/guidance/smart-meters-how-they-work

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobprofiles/Pages/smartmeterinstaller.aspx

www.britishgas.co.uk/smarter-living/control-energy/smart-meters.html

www.eonenergy.com/for-your-home/smart-meters

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

Please contact us for further information on your individual requirements and suitability for either of these courses.

“Excellent course! It was made interesting by trainers passing on tips and advice from many years of industry experience. I learned so much during my training with ECTA.”

Sam Canavan

Get in touch

If you would like to find out more, please get in touch with a member of our team

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