

OFTEC NON-ACCREDITED ASSESSMENTS - GUIDANCE NOTE FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES AND APPROVED CENTRES

SECTION 1 - SOLID FUEL ASSESSMENTS

CATEGORY 1, 2 AND 3 APPLICATION CONDITIONS

CATEGORY 1

Applicants in this category are regarded as experienced Solid Fuel technicians holding one of the following - they will need to provide an original certificate as evidence to the Assessment Centre prior to taking OFTEC assessments:

- OFTEC OFT15-108D (category 1 status for OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)
 - OFTEC OFT15-108W (category 1 status for OFT15-108W, OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)
 - OFTEC OFT18-108S (category 1 status for OFT18-108S only)

 - HETAS H003 AND H006 (category 1 status for OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)
 - HETAS H004 AND H006 (category 1 status for OFT15-108W, OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)
 - HETAS H005 (category 1 status for OFT15-108W, OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)
 - HETAS H009 (category 1 status for OFT18-108S only)

 - BPEC Solid Fuel Installer (category 1 status for OFT15-108W, OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)

 - CITY & GUILDS Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Domestic Plumbing and Heating (6189) - must include Solid Fuel pathway (category 1 status for OFT15-108W, OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)
 - CITY & GUILDS Level 3 Diploma in Plumbing and Domestic Heating (9189-03) - must include Solid Fuel pathway (category 1 status for OFT15-108W, OFT15-108D and OFT18-108S)
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CATEGORY 2

Applicants in this category are regarded as holding a nationally recognised qualification in a trade associated with Solid Fuel work; candidates must provide relevant qualifications to support entry

OFT15-108D / OFT18-108S

OFTEC technician with scope of work categories 101,102 or 105E

- or - Registered Gas Safe or RGII operative
- or - Registered member of GOMCS, APICS, NACS, NIACS, CSAI, ICS, CSA or NACE
- or - evidence of formal qualifications: City & Guilds 6129/6035 and 6089, or QCF 6189;
- or - (United Kingdom) N/SVQ Level 2/3 in plumbing or equivalent earlier certification that provides evidence of competence
(Republic of Ireland) FETAC Level 5 in plumbing
- or - HETAS H003 Dry Appliance Installer course
- or - BPEC Solid Fuel Installer or Solid Biomass course
- or - APHC Installation of Solid Fuel Appliances and Heating Systems Fed by Solid Fuel in Domestic Appliances course
- or - NVQ Level 3 in Inspecting and Designing Chimneys and Dry Solid Fuel Installations

Or

Have relevant qualifications, skills and experience gained from working in a related trade such as Plumbing / Heating / Ventilation / Refrigeration / Air-Conditioning / Gas Fitting or servicing.

Applicants must provide evidence of this related experience to the Assessment Centre. The evidence must consist of, as a minimum, the following:

- Name and address of the business(s) providing the related experience.
- The types of related work undertaken.

OFT15-108W

Compulsory: OFTEC OFT15-108D

And

- (United Kingdom) - N/SVQ Level 2/3 in plumbing or equivalent earlier certification that provides evidence of competence
(Republic of Ireland) - FETAC Level 6 in plumbing
- or - evidence of OFTEC 101 or 105E;
- or - evidence of formal qualifications: City & Guilds 6035 and 6089, or QCF 6189;
- or - HETAS H004 Wet Appliance Installer course
- or - BPEC Solid Biomass course
- or - Gas Safe Registered Operative holding a current CENWAT category
- or - RGII Registered Operative holding a current GID category

All Category 2 candidates must also undertake training at an OFTEC approved training centre.

The training must consist of training utilising the current OFTEC Technical Book. The possession of the OFTEC Technical Book prior to training and subsequent assessment is mandatory.

CATEGORY 3

Applicants in this category are regarded as new to the Solid Fuel industry, and do not hold any national qualifications in a related field nor have any related work experience. Application conditions for this category require that the Category 3 applicant must obtain experience with a business which is willing to provide an auditable extended Solid Fuel training programme incorporating both On and Off the Job components with organisational support prior to the applicant taking OFTEC training and assessment. Evidence of the contents of the programme detailing the Off the Job training and On the Job experience must be presented to the Assessment Centre as above.

SECTION 2 – HEAT PUMP ASSESSMENTS

CATEGORY 1, 2 AND 3 APPLICATION CONDITIONS

Category 1

Applicants in this category are regarded as experienced heat pump technicians holding OFT accredited certificate(s) for the assessment(s) they wish to undertake; they will need to provide an original certificate as evidence to the Assessment Centre prior to taking OFTEC assessments.

OFT21-504A and/or OFT21-504G applicants must also hold a current and valid:

- Water Regulations certificate
- Unvented Hot Water certificate

Applicants seeking an extension to scope from either OFT21-504A to OFT21-504G or vice-versa may do so after undertaking training at an OFTEC Approved Training Centre, and are therefore Category 2.

Category 2

Applicants in this category must undertake heat pump training at an OFTEC Approved Training Centre prior to accessing the OFTEC assessments. This training will be provided impartially by the Approved Training Centre.

Category 2 applicants shall hold a nationally recognised qualification and/or hold appropriate registration in a trade associated with heating and/or plumbing. Applicants must provide evidence of relevant qualifications and / or registration to support entry.

Or

Must provide written evidence to the Assessment Centre confirming that the applicant has 'on the job' heating installation and/or maintenance experience (or for OFT21-504D applicants, heat pump system design work experience) for a period of not less than two years that would support their application for the range of assessments to be undertaken, and evidence of ongoing continual professional development. The evidence shall be in writing from the employer detailing precisely the type, range and volume of work carried out.

OFT21-504A and/or OFT21-504G applicants must also hold a current and valid:

- Water Regulations certificate
 - Unvented Hot Water certificate
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Category 3

Applicants in this category are regarded as new to the heating industry, and do not hold any national qualifications in a related field nor have any relevant work experience. Application conditions for this category require that the Category 3 applicant must:

- Obtain experience with a competent person (CPS) and/or Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) installation business who are willing to provide an auditable 'on the job' training programme prior to the applicant taking the OFTEC assessment. The training must be of a minimum six months duration, and incorporate, as a minimum, five completed installations.

And

Undertake at least one heat pump manufacturer's training course for installation and commissioning which is planned, managed and certificated as professional development (PD). Completion certificates must be provided for these courses.

And

Undertake planned and managed heat pump training at an OFTEC Approved Training Centre prior to accessing the OFTEC assessments. This training will be provided impartially by the Approved Training Centre.

OFT21-504A and/or OFT21-504G applicants must also hold a current and valid:

- Water Regulations certificate
- Unvented Hot Water certificate

Document change record

Date of change	Version No.	Details of change
October 2023	1	First issue, details of non-accredited schemes transferred from document R576