

Is there a legal requirement to undertake regular asbestos refresher training?

Current legislation states that workers who undertake non-licensed asbestos work should complete annual refresher training: HSE classes asbestos analysts and surveyors as non-licensed workers. The requirement for yearly refresher training is also supported by HSE guidance documents *HSG264 Asbestos: the survey guide* and *HSG248 Asbestos: the analysts' guide for sampling, analysis and clearance procedures*, alongside [UKAS publication LAB 30](#).

Why do I (or my staff) need to undertake regular refresher training?

It is recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) that asbestos workers should refresh their learning regularly, in case of changes in procedure or legislation.

Your workplace could be investigated by HSE inspectors if you do not provide evidence that shows you have refreshed your learning of your role within the last 12 months – don't take that risk!

I am a qualified asbestos practitioner who has worked in the industry for over 10 years. Do I still need to take annual refresher training?

Yes. It is important to keep up-to-date with any changes in legislation that have come into effect recently, to ensure that you are following correct working procedures.

What refresher training does BOHS offer?

BOHS offers one day, classroom-based refresher training in the following asbestos practitioner roles:

- Asbestos surveying (RP402)
- Asbestos site clearance/air sampling analysis (RP404)
- Management of asbestos in buildings (RP405)

Why should I take a BOHS refresher course?

- BOHS asbestos refresher courses are supported by the HSE and UKAS, and comply with the requirements outlined in the [Control of Asbestos Regulations \(CAR\) 2012](#).
- Booking onto a BOHS refresher training day saves your employer the hassle of organising their own refresher training, and the worry of not meeting HSE standards. If your organisation has a number of professionals that need to take refresher training, our training providers can also come to you to run a course in-house.
- A lot of companies offer asbestos **awareness** refresher training, which does not go into enough detail for experienced asbestos practitioners. BOHS refresher courses are focused on the practitioner's role, to help them refresh on their day-to-day practical tasks, as well as refreshing on the theoretical learning of their subject area.
- BOHS refresher courses are delivered by qualified training providers who have years of hands-on experience in the asbestos industry. It's a great opportunity to ask their advice on any procedures or workplace situations that you require further guidance on.
- Rather than re-learning the original P module qualification all over again, the training day is adapted to suit your specific training needs – revising your learning on any areas you find particularly challenging and helping to you improve your practical skills.
- Every attendee will receive a BOHS branded certificate to confirm they have attended refresher training – we are the 'quality stamp' for asbestos training courses. You can display this in your workplace as proof of attending a refresher training day in the last 12 months.
- Refresher training will take no longer than one day – and approximately half a day for more experienced professionals. Your refresher training will be done and dusted to allow you to carry on with your work.

How much does it cost to attend a refresher training day?

BOHS' fee is £40.00 per candidate, plus the training provider's fee. This is a reduced fee from the previous examined refresher courses.

Do I have to take an exam as part of this course?

There is **no examination** – just a quick informal assessment set by the tutor to check that you have understood the training day.

How often do I need to refresh?

According to the Health and Safety Executive, refresher information, instruction and training for licensable and non-licensable work should be provided every year, or more frequently if:

- Work methods change.
- The type of equipment used to control exposure changes.
- The type of work carried out changes significantly.
- Gaps in competency are identified.

Do I need to hold a particular qualification before I can attend a BOHS refresher training course?

Ideally, you will hold the BOHS Proficiency qualification for the refresher course you are taking (e.g. P402 to attend the RP402 course). However, this is not compulsory.

If I don't refresh, will I lose my original BOHS qualification?

No. If you hold a BOHS P module qualification certificate, this is for life. However, if you don't undertake annual refresher training then you run the risk of being prosecuted if your company is audited, and it is found you have not undertaken any form of refresher training in the last 12 months or more.

There are no refresher training courses scheduled near to where I work. Will the training provider come to me?

Yes. If you have a few employees who are looking to attend refresher training, you can contact one of our training providers who will be pleased to discuss your individual training needs.

Does the refresher certificate count as a qualification?

The refresher course certificate does **not** count as a qualification. However, it does confirm that you have refreshed your knowledge in a specific subject in the last 12 months in order to meet the requirements set by the HSE and other organisations.