

General Information

The Emergency Response Driver (ERD) Course is designed to teach selected firefighters, employed on the MOD Estate, the skills necessary to safely drive a fire appliance. It builds on the skills acquired during Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) training and consists of 2 parts:

- Part 1 – Pre Course Training
- Part 2 – Formal Training

Part 1 – Pre Course Training

All students who attend the ERD Course must be fully conversant with the Highway Code and 'Roadcraft' – The Police Drivers handbook. Copies of 'Roadcraft' and the Highway Code should be held on Unit.

In order to measure your underpinning knowledge, you will be required to pass a Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) Theory Test Paper (pass mark 43/50) which is based on the Highway Code along with the DVSA Hazard Perception Test, which has 14 clips with a pass mark of 44 out of a possible 75, on the first day of your course. Failure to pass either of the DVSA Tests will result in a retest on Tuesday morning; failure to pass this retest will result in you being returned to your Station. If you can provide satisfactory written evidence that these tests, **or equivalent UK Matrix Tests**, have been carried out within the 6 months prior to the course start date then this would exempt you from the tests on day 1 of the course. The evidence needs to be proven through either the DVSA, DST Leconfield, MT Section, Education Department or Fire Station Manager.

Study Procedure

You should choose a method of study which suits you, however, whichever study method you choose, we would recommend that you spend no more than 40 minutes working then take a 15 minute break. All the knowledge required to successfully complete the theory examination is contained within the Highway Code and 'Roadcraft'.

Students must ensure that they are fully conversant with both of the DVSA tests prior to attending DFTDC – there is not time in the programme to carry out practice tests

Part 2 - Formal Training

Part 2 of the course consists of 5 days training (normally spread over 1 week) which reflects the National Occupational Standards and currently covers:

- Road Traffic Law and Regulations
- Observation
- System of vehicle control
- Vehicle handling and positioning
- Driving at speed and 'Blue Light' driving
- Student formative assessment
- Student Blue Light summative assessment

¹

This includes Defence Fire Risk Management Organisation and Contract Fire Service personnel

Course Programme

A copy of the ERD Course programme is provided on this site.

Course Documentation

You are required to bring the following documentation:

- Civilian Driving Licence (see DVSA online form INF5D page 3 "Check Someone's Driving Licence Information"). This will give you a check code.
- Record of Driving Hours
- FMT 600
- DFRS Form 210 for civilian employees

Further Information

In addition to this document you should refer to:

- DFTDC Information – General Information, Location Map and Contacts
- General Information – Course Information, MT Regulations (JSP 800) and MT Orders
- Forms – DFRS Forms 221 and 222