



Industry Qualifications

National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Driving Goods Vehicles

Introduction

NVQs (SVQs in Scotland) are practical work-based qualifications that are recognised by employers and colleges throughout the UK. They are awarded to people who have proved their skill, knowledge and understanding of all aspects of their job. This means these qualifications will demonstrate that an employee is occupationally competent in their job role. A range of S/NVQs have been developed in order to meet the current and future skill demands of the Logistics sector.

The qualification – Driving Goods Vehicles

In consultation with the freight logistics industry, awarding bodies and other partners, Skills for Logistics have developed a Driving Goods Vehicles S/NVQ at two levels. A full list of units is shown overleaf.

The Level 2 Qualification is for goods vehicle drivers who can demonstrate a level of competence in order to conduct their role effectively. This competence is more than that required by the relevant statutory driving test, as it requires driving skills to be shown whilst driving a goods vehicle that is laden with a typical load. Drivers must demonstrate a sufficient level of competence to complete 7 mandatory units to gain the award. The units include demonstrating competencies in pre-driving checks (including the use of tachographs) and monitoring the loading of goods. Additional units give candidates the opportunity to show competence in unloading goods vehicles, and coupling and uncoupling goods vehicles if these form part of their job role.

The Level 3 Qualification is for drivers who can show broader driving competencies and be considered as professional goods vehicle drivers. This qualification therefore builds on the competencies required for the level 2 qualification. This qualification also requires skills to be shown whilst driving a goods vehicle that is laden with a typical load. Optional units give candidates the opportunity to show competence in other areas; obtaining information about the collection and delivery of loads, planning routes and timings, loading vehicles, coupling and uncoupling vehicles.

Drivers at **either level** are encouraged to achieve as many units against which they can demonstrate competence and not just the minimum number of units required.

Individuals can work towards either qualification whilst developing the knowledge and skills required for the relevant Large Goods Vehicle driving test and licence. It is not necessary to hold a licence above the basic 'car licence' (currently DVLA category B), in order to start working towards the qualifications.



Level 2

Mandatory units

- Monitoring the loading of the vehicle by others
- Completing pre-driving preparations
- Maintaining the safety and the security of the load, self and property
- Awareness of driving conditions
- Operating the vehicle systems
- Driving the vehicle on public roads
- Driving the vehicle in restricted spaces

Additional units

- Unloading the vehicle
- Coupling and uncoupling the vehicle

Drivers must obtain all 7 mandatory units for a full award. The additional 2 units do not form part of the qualification, but are available for candidates who have the opportunity to demonstrate competence in these areas.

Level 3

Mandatory units

- Monitoring the loading of the vehicle by others
- Unloading the vehicle
- Completing pre-driving preparations
- Maintaining the safety and security of the load, self and property
- Awareness of driving conditions
- Operating the vehicle systems
- Driving the vehicle in restricted spaces
- Driving the vehicle safely and efficiently on public roads

Optional units

- Obtaining information on the delivery and collection of loads
- Planning the route and timings for the delivery and collection of loads
- Loading the vehicle
- Coupling and uncoupling the vehicle

Drivers must obtain all 8 mandatory units, plus at least any 2 optional units for a full award. The additional 2 units do not form part of the qualification, but are available for those who have the opportunity to demonstrate competence in these areas.

To find an N/SVQ training provider please contact one of the following Awarding Bodies:

City & Guilds –	www.cityandguilds.co.uk	Tel: 0207 294 2800
Edexcel –	www.edexcel.org.uk	Tel: 0844 576 0026
EDI –	www.ediplc.com	Tel: 08707 202909
OCR –	www.ocr.org.uk	Tel: 02476 851509
SQA (Scotland) –	www.sqa.org.uk	Tel: 0845 279 1000
Awards UK -	www.awardsuk.org	Tel: 0845 213 5530
PAA/VQSET -	www.paa-uk.org	Tel: 01543 254223