

Offshore Survival Courses

BOSIET

For UK waters this survival course is officially known as a BOSIET (Basic Offshore Safety Induction and Emergency Training) course

BOSIET courses vary in length between providers - usually 2 to 3 days, and with the advent of e-learning some providers allow the theory parts to be completed via the internet. The cost of a basic course varies from £450 and up, plus any accommodation costs. Courses are very popular and there can be long waiting lists - though gone are the days of a single provider for the UK. The "Offshore Survival Certificate" as the BOSIET is also commonly known, is only valid for 4 years, and a refresher (usually lasting a day) must be done before your old certificate expires otherwise the whole course must be repeated. A list of centres in the UK that offer Survival training are found below.

Offshore Abroad

Different countries across the world have differing requirements, some more stringent than the UK requirements described above. For example a BOSIET course is not sufficient for working in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea. The Norwegian Oil Industry Association (OLF) course, is a 5 day affair and a lot more demanding than that required in the UK. Most offshore training companies in the UK run courses allowing you to work in other sectors. These are often run as additions to the BOSIET course.

Offshore Medicals

Every offshore worker must undergo and pass a medical examination which classifies them as medically fit to work in the offshore environment. Different offshore authorities have different requirements. For UK waters only physicians who are approved by the United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association (UKOOA) Health Advisory Committee should carry out the examination. To find out where you can find an UKOOA approved doctor follow this link

<http://www.oilandgas.org.uk/issues/health/doctors.cfm>

The offshore medical certificate, as it is commonly known, is only valid for a limited time, and you need to renew it to continue working offshore. The frequency for renewal depends on the authority controlling the asset you are visiting and your age.

Individual Operators retain the right to request medical assessments more frequently. Although UKOOA set out what is to be included in the medical, contractors report that some doctors carry out a more in-depth examination than others. A typical examination will begin with you filling out an extensive form on your medical history, and lifestyle e.g. alcohol consumption, exercise etc. After this there will be a;

- Urine check
- Height, weight and resultant Body Mass Index calculation
- Blood Pressure
- Basic eye sight test

- Lung capacity check
 - Hearing test
 - A physical examination by a doctor. Check stature, listen to your breathing, reflexes etc
- And yes, you may be asked to cough!
- The doctor will also discuss the form you filled in, and carry out any additional checks they think necessary.

Offshore Abroad

Many authorities have reciprocal agreements with other authorities with regard to medicals, e.g. the Netherlands Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Association (NOGEP) will accept a UKOOA medical, or a Norwegian Oil Industry Association (OLF) medical.

Survival Centres

Centre Name	Address	Tel	Fax	Contact Name	Email Address / Web Address
Warsash	Southampton, UK	01489 576161	01489 576908	Pam Fidgeon - 01489 556294	www.solent.ac.uk/wmc
Petans	Suffolk, UK	01603 891255	01603 890827		www.petans.co.uk
HOTA	Hull, UK	01482 820567	01482 823202		www.hota.org
Petrofactraining	International				www.petrofactraining.com/contacts/training-centres.asp
NUTEC	International				www.nutecuk.com/
Fleetwood	Lancashire, UK	01253 779123	01253 773014		www.blackpool.ac.uk/nautical/fosc
South Tyneside College	Tyne & Wear, UK	0191 427 3900	0191 427 3535		stc.ac.uk/marine/courses/view.php?id=1274
Lafayette Marine Survival Training Center	Louisiana, USA				http://mstc.louisiana.edu/courses/index.shtml
IFAP Survival Training Centre	Australia				www.ifap.asn.au
McMillan Offshore Survival Training	Maine, USA				www.mcmillanoffshore.com