

British Caving Association

How to book onto a course

Register with scheme

All candidates wishing to book onto a training or assessment course must be registered with the LCMLA & CIC award scheme. Candidates need only register once, for which there is a one-off fee for both the Local Cave and Mine Leader Award and Cave Instructor Certificate schemes. To register;

- Click here: <https://britishcaving.justgo.com/> and sign up
- Click on "Membership" and purchase LCMLA/CIC Scheme Membership
- A video which walks candidates through the sign-up process available here: <https://youtu.be/jo9IuUmx5FY>

Register for a course

Courses are delivered by Trainer/Assessors following the award scheme syllabus. Trainer/Assessors must register all courses with the Qualification Management System (QMS), however in some cases may choose not to advertise the course publicly on the system.

Candidates can only book onto a course if the pre-requisites are met.

Book onto a course through the Qualification Management System

- Log onto the QMS: <https://britishcaving.justgo.com/>
- Find a course
 - Click on Events & Courses
 - Select course type then region
 - Select a course
 - Click "Add to cart" (note in most cases candidates are unable to book onto a course if they do not meet the pre-requisites)
 - **Follow the payment method, even though the payment will be zero, and complete the order**

Book onto a course direct with a Trainer/Assessor

If booking directly with a Trainer/Assessor, or for courses not advertised on the system, candidates will need to provide the following details (in the same format registered with the QMS) to the Trainer/Assessor so that they can add candidates to the course:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Membership Number (note this starts with ME)
- Date of Birth

In both cases, once booked onto a course the Trainer/Assessor will contact candidates with joining instructions, booking conditions and invoicing details.

Please be aware that Trainer/Assessors may remove candidates from a course if the Trainer/Assessors bookings terms and conditions are not met.

CIC Module 4 Assessment: Mines Module

A one or two day (depending on previous qualifications) underground assessment based in a predominantly horizontal system, preferably one not well known to the candidate.

The CIC Scheme module 4 provides an award based on an independent assessment of the competence of those who wish to lead parties, coach persons and advise organisations about mine exploration across a wide range of venues in Britain. A CIC mines module award holder can still only work in a Blue Routed venue. A Blue Route is the part of a mine that has been approved by a mines inspector for use by BCA award holders to lead groups in. The assessment may take place in a category 4 inspected mine. This is one that has been inspected by a mines inspector and has been approved for training and assessment use only and not for general use by groups. The candidate's consideration for the conservation of the fragile mine environment is also paramount.

NB. There is not a Mines Module training course but any candidate who feels their knowledge needs increasing prior to assessment is advised to undertake bespoke training.

NB. It is a requirement to hold module 4 to become a LML Trainer/Assessor(T/A).

Pre-requisites

A Hold the CIC.

B Have completed at least two days formal mine leader training by one of three pathways. Whichever route is taken it must cover at least two of three mine types; slate/stone/metalliferous-

- 2 day mine leader training course
- 1 day cave to mine transfer training plus 1 day bespoke mine training run by CIC mines module T/A
- 2 days bespoke training by mines module T/A

C Experience in at least three mine regions (see below)

D Hold LML award for one or two regions, one of which must be Northern England or North Wales including complex sites.

E Minimum 4 years logged mine exploration

F Ideally the candidate will have experience of some technical or specialist area of mine exploring, e.g. accompanying a mine engineer when making the inspections for LMLA user groups, digs or projects in mines, surveying, etc.

A wide and varied practical experience and knowledge of mining is required in a variety of stone, metalliferous and slate mines. Candidates should be familiar with, and aware of, all types of mine terrain; e.g. Roof supports, Stacked deads & pack walls, Stopes, Ore hoppers, False floors, Winzes & raises, Flooded shafts, Submerged obstacles, Stemples, ladders & staging, Old machinery & pipework, Explosives & detonators, Pollution. Open shafts, stopes & quarries, Unstable spoil tips, Wheel pits, Disused buildings & machinery, Slimes dams.

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Candidates should have experience of leading and rigging pitches and be accustomed to taking responsibility for leading novices or less-experienced mine explorers underground.

It is expected that candidates will be familiar with most of the major underground and surface features of their main mine area, as well as the blue routed systems used for initial mining experience. It is expected that they will also have visited at least 30 systems in a minimum of two other areas;

MINE AREAS

1. North Pennines
2. Derbyshire
3. North Wales
4. Forest of Dean
5. Shropshire
6. Lake District
7. Mid / South Wales
8. Cornwall & Devon
9. Others, e.g. Sussex stone mines, Bath area stone mines, Bolton & Bury area stone mines, etc.

Assessment Process

When an individual thinks that they are ready to start the assessment process, they must contact one of the CIC Mines Module Trainer/Assessors. This list can be found on the BCA website. Depending on the candidate's previous qualifications there are two assessment pathways.

A If the candidate holds 2 LML regions (one must be North Wales or Northern England with complex sites in their main region) a 1 day CIC mines module 4 assessment in a mine type that is different to their main region and ideally in an unknown venue.

B If the candidate holds 1 LML region (must be North Wales or Northern England with complex sites) 2 days of CIC mines module assessment in two mine types from stone/slate/metalliferous that are different to their main region and ideally in unknown venues. This should be with two different CIC mines module Trainer/Assessors.

The contract for each assessment is between the candidate and the trainer / assessor. BCA offers no warranty over such contracts and will not enter into any disputes that might arise.

Course Overview

Candidates must be familiar with all aspects of the syllabus before the assessment process begins. At the end of the assessment the Assessor will feedback the result of the assessment in one of three ways: PASS: awarded where the candidate has demonstrated an appropriate knowledge and application of the course syllabus and has shown the necessary experience for and application of mine exploration. DEFERRED: awarded where the candidate has generally performed at the required standard and shown most of the necessary experience and attributes, but where complete proficiency has not been attained. A detailed action plan giving succinct recommendations for further experience will be given, along with details of the proposed reassessment. A FAIL can be awarded where the candidate's performance has been sufficiently weak or the necessary experience and attributes have not been shown.

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The assessment for module four requires a practical assessment at an appropriate location or locations, providing a suitable, predominantly horizontal trip, preferably in a system not familiar to the candidate. The venue will be chosen by the assessor in consultation with the candidate. The candidate is expected to provide the equipment required to rig the chosen location(s). In areas such as dealing with emergency situations Trainer/Assessors sometimes use role-play methods. They will not be used extensively to assess leadership skills. Trainer/Assessors must ensure that it is made clear to candidates when role-play is to take place. The Trainer/Assessor has the right to terminate the assessment if the candidate is not up to the required standard in fundamental areas of the syllabus relating to safety or conservation. Should this occur, the candidate will be immediately informed by the assessor of their decision, and the outcome will be recorded as "Fail".

All CIC assessments have a ratio of 1 trainer to 1 candidate

Syllabus

The full checklist used by Trainer/Assessors which forms the syllabus for this award is provided below. Candidates should ensure they are familiar with all aspects of the checklist prior to booking an assessment.

CIC MODULE 4 – MINES

DATE

NAME

ME No.

ASSESSOR

Skill/ technique	Score	Comments
Written Paper		
Pre trip checks & knowledge Access Weather and flood risk Conservation issues Surface navigation Destination notes/Call out procedure Land & mine ownership Access law Personal equipment Emergency equipment		

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Surface mining hazards Open shafts, stopes & quarries Unstable spoil tips Wheel pits Disused buildings & machinery Slimes dams		
Risk assessment & underground hazards Safety of entrance Bad ground Roof supports Stacked deads & pack walls Stopes Ore hoppers False floors Winzes & raises Flooded shafts Submerged obstacles Stemples, ladders & staging Old machinery & pipework Explosives & detonators Pollution Fixed aids/Digs/Shoring		
Gasses Common mine gasses Radon Detection Symptoms		
Underground navigation Use of mine plans and Blue Routes Route finding		
Geology Main Mineral worked Other Mineralisation Speleothems Local geology Drainage Haulage Ventilation		
Environment Bats Mine fauna Mine flora e.g. microbes		

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Understanding of different mine types Stone Slate Metalliferous Working methods History		
Technical Skills Unprotected climbs/Spotting Hand-lines/Position of leader Anchors/Knots Assisted hand-lines Direct and Indirect belaying Improvised harness/Hoists NB. <i>Technical skills have already been assessed in the CIC so it is not necessary to actively seek opportunities to look at these skills but do assess any that do occur.</i>		
Leadership Incident management/Judgements Emergency procedures		

Other comments**Radon**

<https://british-caving.org.uk/documents/radon-underground/?tmstv=1708342451>

Scoring rationale

<https://british-caving.org.uk/our-work/training/leadership-awards/cic/>

Your next steps

Passing CIC module 4 Mines Module will reset the clock for your CIC award and any LML awards that you hold and so the next update will be in three years. At this time evidence must be produced to show currency for CIC and CIC mines module to update the award.