

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.azolve.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.azolve.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.

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Mine to Cave Training

Training course for Mine Leaders or those trained as Mine Leaders wishing to work towards leading groups within Caves.

Pre-requisites

Candidates must have completed their Mine Leader training course and have sufficient caving experience to be comfortable exploring underground. It is suggested a minimum of 12 cave trips would be appropriate, although those with less than 12 caving trips may attend the training course at the Trainer/Assessors discretion.

Course Content

This one-day training course can be delivered with up to 6 candidates by one Trainer/Assessor. The course can be delivered in any region; however, candidates may find it beneficial to attend a course in a region they are planning to work. The course would normally involve a combination of surface theory sessions together with at least one underground trip.

The training course will have some elements of personal skill development, however, will primarily focus on leadership skills and techniques appropriate for leading groups within the remit of this award.

The training course will cover the key areas of the assessment syllabus listed below, with a tailored focus on areas candidates typically have difficulty with or identify with the Trainer/Assessor as requiring further input. QMC have prepared some resources that may support a candidate, these are available on the BCA website. Trainer/Assessors may offer resources and guidance for a candidate to help further their knowledge however candidates are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the syllabus prior to attending a training course so they can identify areas they are unfamiliar with and address these with their trainer.

Resource Links

- [Cave & Mine Leader: Ropework](#)
- [Weather and its Effects on Caves](#)
- [Cave & Mine Leader: Water Safety](#)
- [Cave Emergency Card](#)
- [Long Churn Flash Flood Presentation](#)
- [Hydrology of Goydon Pot and Manchester Hole](#)
- [Radon Underground](#)

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.

<p>Underground hazards Pollution Weil's disease Radon gas Loose / slippery rocks Holes Deep / fast water Awareness of flooding – speed of / likely effects Evidence of cave's reaction to flooding Difficulty of rescue Statistics / common rescue incidents</p> <p>Conservation & access Site specific General Public relations</p> <p>Cave environment Basic surface geology / topography / karst features Cave development / bedding & joints / passage shapes Cave deposits Temperatures / draughts Flora & fauna Fossils Formations (speleothems)</p>	<p>Technical skills Underground movement skills – over a variety of passage types Underground navigation / survey interpretation / timing Selection and use of suitable belay points (natural and artificial including anchors) Unprotected climbs – position of leader Communications / group management Leadership / judgement</p> <p>Accident & emergency procedures Incident management Assessment / first aid treatment / plan of action Rescue call out Hypothermia – awareness / treatment / action Light failure Cancellation of destination note Overdue problems Access to dry clothing</p>
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Your next steps

Candidates who have already completed their Mine Leader award will only need to attend a Cave Leader Core Skills assessment to become a Cave Leader however, will be required to satisfy their Trainer/Assessor that they are thoroughly familiar with the caves they wish to lead groups in.