

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 through the Qualification Management System (QMS). 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**
- BCA Membership is optional (annual fee)
- Videos supporting the use of the QMS are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/QMSSupport>

Register for a course

Courses are delivered by approved BCA Trainer/Assessors in line with the award-scheme syllabus. All courses must be registered on the QMS. Courses may be **open**, advertised publicly on the QMS with booking via the Events & Courses area, or **closed**, arranged privately with candidates registering directly with the Trainer/Assessor.

Candidates may only book if they meet the stated prerequisites.

Book onto an open 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
 - Find and 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 closed 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 manually 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.

British Caving Association

SRT for Leader Assessment

The **SRT Leader Assessment** is *not* a leadership award. It is a test and endorsement of a Vertical Leader's competence in ascending and descending a rope using established **Single Rope Technique (SRT)** skills.

This assessment evaluates a candidate's personal SRT skills, equipment, and competence in rigging and managing simple vertical SRT pitches (up to 18 metres in length). It also covers problem prevention and problem-solving skills. The SRT Leader Assessment complements the **Vertical Leader** assessment.

Pre-requisites

- **Attendance at a Vertical Leader Training Course** is required prior to assessment, unless an exemption from training has been granted in exceptional circumstances.
- **Experience:** Candidates must demonstrate sufficient personal experience in a variety of caves and/ or mines. As a guideline, a minimum of 12 SRT trips is expected prior to assessment.

Course Overview

- The assessment is a **one-day practical** session, usually conducted underground.
- Candidates may be assessed alongside another candidate with a Trainer/ Assessor from any region, unless combining the SRT assessment with the **Vertical Core Skills** and/ or **Tyrolean Assessment**. In such cases, the assessment is conducted on a **1:1** basis.
- The Trainer/Assessor delivering the assessment **must not** be the same person who delivered the training for this module.

The Trainer/ Assessor has the right to terminate the assessment if the candidate does not meet the required standards in key areas of the syllabus related to safety or conservation.

Assessment Outcomes

There are three possible outcomes:

- **Pass** - The candidate has demonstrated competence in all areas of the syllabus and will be awarded the credential/ Qualification.
- **Defer** - The candidate has not demonstrated full understanding in at least one area and must undergo a reassessment of that area. This may be completed with the same Trainer/ Assessor or as a full reassessment with another.
- **Fail** - The candidate has not demonstrated competence in multiple areas or has not met the required standards for safety or conservation. A full reassessment will be required, either with the same or a different Trainer/ Assessor.

Post-Assessment Process

The award remains valid for **five years**, provided the candidate remains active and holds a valid **First Aid Certificate**. To maintain the award beyond this period, candidates must complete one of the following before the award expires:

British Caving Association

- Attend an **Update Workshop**
- Attend a **CIC Training Course**
- Pass their **CIC Module 2 Assessment**

In the event of a deferral or fail, the Trainer/ Assessor will provide an action plan. This action plan will be uploaded to the candidate's profile on the QMS as a "Deferral" or "Fail" credential, visible only to the candidate (and the QMCs administrator).

Reassessments must take place within 12 months of the original assessment date.

Resource Links

- [Vertical Leader Flowchart](#)
- [Vertical Leader: Ropework](#)

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.

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SRT For Leader Assessment Assessors Checklist

Candidates
Name:

ME Number:

Assessment
Date:

Assessment
Venue:

Personal SRT equipment	
Suitability of equipment inc. rope	
Pre use inspection & care limitations	

Problem Solving	
Mid rope transition - up to down	
Mid rope transition - down to up	
Alternative means of descent (lost/damaged descender)	
Alternative means of ascent (lost/damaged jammer)	

Rigging Skills	
Principles inc. anchor selection	
Personal Safety	
Use of Rigging Guides / Topos	
Ropes and Knots for SRT	
Practical rigging of Technical Traverse*	
Practical rigging of Pitch Head	
Practical rigging of Rebelay	
Practical rigging of Deviation	

Use as a leader	
Due consideration of accident to leader	
Conversion of SRT Rigging for lifeline/group abseil/ group lower/ ladder	
Use and suitability of Personal SRT equipment for lifelining/ lowering/ rescue	
Consideration and use of travelling ladders	

Personal Progression	
Safe and efficient descent, including managing traverse, pitch head transition, re-belays and deviations	
Safe and efficient ascent, including managing traverse, pitch head transition, re-belays and deviations	
Pull-through; personal safety/ limitations/ appropriateness	

A **technical traverse is a traverse that typically requires users to weight the rope in order to progress, and/or where an unprotected slip or fall would have serious consequences.*

Your next steps

The candidate needs to continue to log experience in preparation for their next update workshop.