

NPORS • CATEGORY N104

OVERHEAD CRANE

COURSE OVERVIEW

In factories, fabrication shops, steel stockholders and warehouses, overhead cranes (also called gantry or bridge cranes) move heavy materials and components above the workshop floor. They're often controlled by pendant or remote from ground level, so the operator has to manage the load, the people underneath and the obstacles around them at the same time. The NPORS N104 Overhead Crane course gives you the training, testing and recognised card you need to operate one safely and legally.

ACCREDITATION	DURATION	CARD VALIDITY	LOCATION
NPORS Category N104 Overhead Crane	Novice course 3 days Experienced worker 1 day Refresher On request	NPORS Traditional 5 years Red Trained Operator 2 years	Nationwide Max 3 candidates per instructor

Whether you're brand new to overhead cranes or you've been operating one for years, there's a route for you: a full 3-day novice course, a refresher course (with proof of previous certification) or an experienced worker test.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

Anyone who operates, or needs to operate, an overhead crane in manufacturing, engineering, fabrication, steel stockholding or warehousing. It's particularly well suited to:

- ✓ New operators looking to get their first overhead crane card
- ✓ Experienced operators who need a recognised card for workplace compliance
- ✓ Fabricators, machinists, stores staff and maintenance fitters who lift loads in the workshop
- ✓ Employers who need their team certified to meet client or insurer requirements

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A good working understanding of spoken and written English.

RED CARD (CSCS LOGO) ONLY

The CITB Operatives Health, Safety & Environment (HS&E) Touchscreen Test, passed within the last 2 years. Not taken it yet? We can help you book it.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Everything from pre-use checks and setting up an exclusion zone to lifting safely and shutting down, so you can operate confidently from the start of your shift to the end. By the end, you'll be able to:

- ✓ Understand the risks of the industry and your responsibilities as an operator
- ✓ Use the manufacturer's handbook for the overhead crane you're operating
- ✓ Identify the main components and key controls and explain what they do
- ✓ Set up an exclusion zone
- ✓ Select and maintain the right PPE for overhead crane work
- ✓ Carry out pre-use and running checks in line with manufacturer and legal requirements
- ✓ Prepare the overhead crane for use and operate it safely and efficiently
- ✓ Understand the environmental considerations of overhead crane work
- ✓ Carry out end-of-work and shutdown procedures

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

3 DAYS NOVICE ROUTE

Days 1–2 cover classroom theory and hands-on practical training on an overhead crane. On day 3, you'll sit the NPORS theory and practical tests. With a maximum of 3 candidates per instructor, you'll get plenty of time on the machine.

DAY 1

DAY 2

DAY 3

■ Training ■ NPORS tests

1 DAY EXPERIENCED WORKER ROUTE

For operators with substantial, recent overhead crane experience. You'll go straight to the NPORS theory and practical tests with no training element, so you'll need to be confident operating without support.

DAY 1 – THEORY & PRACTICAL TESTS

■ NPORS tests

YOUR CARD: GETTING IT, RENEWING IT, UPGRADING IT

Pass both tests and you'll receive a Traditional or Red card for category N104. The Red card can be upgraded to Blue.

NPORS TRADITIONAL CARD

VALID 5 YEARS

GETTING IT

No HS&E touchscreen test needed.

RENEWING

No NVQ required. After 5 years, retake the test or submit a renewal form to NPORS.

RED TRAINED OPERATOR

CSCS LOGO · VALID 2 YEARS

GETTING IT

Only available if you've passed the CITB Operatives HS&E touchscreen test within the last 2 years.

UPGRADING

Can't be renewed like-for-like. Complete the Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Plant Operations – Cranes and Specialist Lifting (Overhead Crane) and hold an operatives touchscreen test passed in the last 2 years to upgrade to Blue. It's worth starting early.

BLUE COMPETENT OPERATOR

CSCS LOGO · VALID 5 YEARS

GETTING IT

Upgrade from the Red card by completing the Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Plant Operations – Cranes and Specialist Lifting (Overhead Crane).

RENEWING

Every 5 years: complete a logbook showing your operating experience, hold a valid operatives touchscreen test (within the last 2 years) and submit a renewal form.

READY TO BOOK?

Check availability, get a quote, or secure your place on the next available course date. Our team will get back to you within one working day.

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