

SAFED FAQs

What does SAFED mean?

SAFED is the acronym for Safe and Fuel Efficient Driving. The development of the course and initial phases of delivery were funded by the Department for Transport (DfT) as far back as 2003. Its principles have been implemented in the HGV, Aggregates, PCV and Van sectors. It has mainly been funded in England with some funding for HGV and Vans being received in Scotland via the Scot Exec.

What is SAFED?

SAFED is a comprehensive one day 'off the job' driver development programme combining both theoretical and practical implementation of safe and fuel efficient driving techniques. It is generally delivered on a 2-1 ratio (2 drivers with 1 trainer)

What if I am an individual driver wanting training?

Training providers will be happy to discuss your specific requirements with you. They may offer to deliver the training on a 1-1 basis or pair you up with another driver.

What vehicle is the training delivered in?

This is negotiable with the training provider. It is recommended that the training takes place in the vehicle that the driver is most accustomed to driving as this will enable the driver to get the most out of training. You must ensure that the driver is suitably insured in order to receive training on the designated training vehicle.

How soon can training be organised?

A mutually agreeable training date can be agreed between the training provider and driver/company.

What are the benefits of SAFED training?

There are a number of benefits of undertaking SAFED training. The training could:

- Help reduce your fleets fuel consumption
- Legislative compliance meeting the Driver CPC regulations
- Reduce CO₂ emissions
- Reduce driver stress
- Demonstrate investment in staff training
- Show commitment to corporate social responsibility and effective fleet management.

What are the trainer's qualifications?

HGV and Aggregates programmes

Trainers operating on the SAFED for HGV or Aggregates programmes:

- Are named on or committed to work towards the DSA LGV Voluntary Registration list
- Have held their category C/C+E licence for a period greater than 3 years
- Are operating through a registered Driver CPC centre

SAFED for Bus and Coach

Trainers operating on the SAFED Bus and Coach programme:

- Have held a PCV licence for a minimum of 3 years
- Are an experienced commercial or in-house trainer
- Are operating through a registered Driver CPC centre

SAFED for Vans

Trainers operating on the SAFED Vans programme:

- Are ADI registered if providing training in-house
- Are ADI fleet registered if providing training on a commercial basis

What are the fundamentals that make up the SAFED training?

There are many aspects that combine to form the SAFED course. These include:

- Driver licence and eyesight check
- Interactive presentation of the SAFED course
- 2 Practical drives- with constant interaction and feedback
- Driver debrief
- Theory test

Is the SAFED training CPC compliant

Yes, if the course is approved by JAUPT for Periodic Training. An approved SAFED course accounts for 7 hours accredited training.

How much fuel can I save?

This depends on a number of factors including:

- Type of journey operated
- Typical loads
- Vehicle specification
- Management of transport (monitoring fuel consumption/installation of telematic systems)

- Management culture
- Driver incentivisation and continued encouragement

Evidence from the pilot, demonstration and transition phases of the programme show typical savings of:

- **HGVs** – Average 10% improvement in MPG (based on 6100 drivers), 36.9% reduction in gear changes
- **Aggregates** – Average 12.45% improvement in MPG and 32% reduction in gear changes
- **Bus and Coach** – Average 12% in MPG, 40% reduction in gear changes and 60% reduction in safety related faults (based on pilot results)

A number of case studies have been developed with the support of the DfT that indicate the savings some fleet operators have achieved. These can be found at the relevant links on the SAFED homepage.

How much does SAFED training cost?

The cost of training will be determined between the trainee(s) and the training provider. Under the funded stage of the SAFED programmes, trainers claimed from the DfT between £150- £175 per driver trained. The cost that the training provider charges is a commercial decision made by them personally.

What late cancellation fees apply?

Late cancellation fees are determined by the training provider and should be agreed well in advance of training.

Where does the training take place?

This is negotiable with the training provider, many of which are happy to deliver training on a customers premises.

Is there a subsidy towards the cost of training?

As of 1st April 2010, there is no longer funding available from the DfT towards the cost of training. There may be alternative routes of funding available and these should be discussed with the training provider.

Can I become a SAFED trainer?

Unfortunately there is no longer the opportunity to become a SAFED for Bus and Coach, SAFED for HGV or SAFED for Aggregates trainer.

Is training available on any other vehicle types?

There is a course available specifically for Van operators, SAFED for Vans. Further details can be found at: www.safed.org.uk/vans

SAFED/May2010/V1

The SAFED course is not available to be delivered to car fleets. However some principles can be adapted to car drivers and the training provider should be able to discuss this further with you.

Is the training available in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland?

Funded SAFED training has taken place in Scotland but not Wales or Northern Ireland. We would suggest you contact the Welsh Assembly, Scottish Executive or Invest NI direct.

How can I find out more about SAFED

Review links on the SAFED website homepage.