

Associate of the IAEA



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Qualification objective and structure

The route to Associate membership of the IAEA helps you develop a knowledge and understanding of key issues involved in vehicle damage assessment, including:

- Basic insurance principles
- Vehicle technical and repair issues
- Application of consumer law and arbitration
- Principles of law relating to rules of evidence
- Principles of law relating to garaging and repairs
- Vehicle repair methods and costings
- Vehicle valuation and salvage categorisation.

To achieve Associate membership status of the IAEA you need to complete the following:

- Section 1 and Section 2 of the [IAEA oral examination](#) or two of the [IAEA written exams](#).
- [IAEA practical exam](#).
- Relevant training appropriate to the automotive sector such as an apprenticeship.

Who is Associate membership of the IAEA suitable for?

- Anyone employed in an engineer assessing role within the motor vehicle repair industry wishing to gain a fundamental understanding of insurance and legal principles relevant to the industry.
- Anyone employed in an engineer assessing role within the motor vehicle repair industry wishing to build on their job knowledge with sound understanding of insurance and legal principles relevant to the industry.
- Anyone employed in an engineer assessing role within the motor vehicle repair industry wishing to begin or restart their studies towards a professional qualification.

Are there any specific skills or prior knowledge required to start studying towards Associate membership?

- Relevant training appropriate to the automotive sector such as an apprenticeship.

How are the exams assessed?

Oral exam

The exam is 40 minutes and ten questions are asked by the assessors, 5 from section 1 (General principles of automotive assessing) and 5 from section 2 (General principles of law). Candidates are required to answer all questions and will be assessed on their verbal response to each question. The pass mark is 60%.

One of the questions in section 1 will be the compulsory question and candidates will be required to achieve at least 60% of the available marks to be successful in the oral exam. The assessors will clearly identify the compulsory question during the exam.

The result and any feedback will be provided shortly after the exam.

The exams are held in UK locations twice a year, additional sessions can be arranged subject to demand.

[Syllabus.](#)

[Qualification updates \(under construction\)](#)

Practical exam

Candidates are required to complete two physical vehicle assessments using escribe. There will also be one image supported vehicle assessment. For the image based assessment: candidates will be provided with a pre-prepared and fully costed vehicle repair specification including supporting vehicle images and will be required to review the content of the assessment for accuracy.

The assessment will take place over a full day and the assessor will be present at all times. The learning outcomes assessed are:

- Vehicle appraisal and valuation
- Repair methods costings
- Salvage knowledge application

Candidates are required to achieve 70% in all learning outcomes across the three vehicle assessments to pass the practical exam. Candidates including an unsafe repair specification in the repair methods costings will be unable to achieve a pass. An unsafe repair specification is one where a key structural panel/part has been omitted or repaired, or an SRS component has been omitted from the repair specification. In addition incorrect identification of factory fitted safety options fitted to the vehicle eg airbags TCS etc constitutes an unsafe repair specification.

The practical exam can be taken at Thatcham Automotive Academy or DIT Dublin, dates are routinely offered throughout the year. Details can be obtained and bookings made direct via the relevant site.

Bridging exam

The IAEA Vehicle Valuation and Salvage Categorisation Bridging Exam was introduced to align the three year ATA VDA qualification with the content of the IAEA practical and the original five year ATA VDA (pre April 2012) qualification.

Candidates who have a current ATA VDA are required to take the IAEA vehicle valuation and salvage categorisation bridging exam unless a five year ADA VDA (pre 2012) has previously been held. Candidates will be required to provide certification/documentation of the previous ATA VDA

The bridging exam can be taken at the oral exam centres, these are held in UK locations twice a year, additional sessions can be arranged subject to demand. The exam is taken online and has two parts.

Part 1 involves correctly categorising accident damaged vehicles and part 2 requires correct valuation of three vehicles.

The learning outcomes assessed are:

- Vehicle appraisal and valuation using GlassNet
- Salvage knowledge application using the ABI Code of Practice.

Completion requirements

	Exam format	Length of exam	Pass mark	Total qualification time	Study materials
Candidates must complete the IAEA oral exam or two of the IAEA written exams (within the last four years)					
Oral Exam	10 verbal questions.	40 minutes	60% (including 60% of the available marks for the compulsory question)	50 hours*	Study text
Written Exam Section 1	Candidates to select 5 out of 6 short answer style questions	3 hours	60%	100 hours*	Study text and tutor supported assignments.
Written Exam Section 2&4** (Compulsory)	Candidates to select 5 out of 6 short answer style questions	2.5 hours	60%	100 hours*	Study text and tutor supported assignments
Written Exam Section 3 (Compulsory)	Candidates to select 5 out of 6 short answer style questions	2.5hours	60%	50 hours*	Study text and tutor supported
Written Exam Section 5	The exam comprises of five questions, each main question is made up of five short answer questions. Candidates are required to answer all five questions.	3 hours	60%	100 hours*	Online learning materials and tutor supported assignments
Candidates must have completed the IAEA practical exam within four years. Candidates who have a current ATA VDA with one year or more before expiry do not need to take the IAEA practical exam but are required to take the IAEA vehicle and salvage categorisation bridging exam. Candidates who have passed ATA VDA prior to April 2012 are not required to take the Bridging Exam provided they are able to provide documentation of the previous ATA VDA certification.					
IAEA Practical exam	Two physical vehicle assessments and one image assessment.	Full day	70% in all vehicle assessments.	21 hours	Three day tutor lead IAEA practical examination preparation available at Thatcham and DIT (Dublin)

	Exam format	Length of exam	Pass mark	Total qualification time	Study materials
IAEA Vehicle valuation and Salvage Categorisation bridging exam. (only required by those holding ATA VDA)	Three valuation assessments and five salvage categorisation from images	1.0 hours	70% in all vehicle assessments	N/A	N/A

*this is an average figure and individuals may find their study requirements differ slightly.
For details of the written exam units, refer to [written examinations](#).