



Driving for Work

Our flagship course for business drivers – enhance safety and empower your drivers with confidence and skill

One in four collisions on UK roads involves a driver on a business journey – making driving the highest-risk activity for employees across all industries.

As an employer, it is essential that you take action to mitigate this risk. You have a lawful duty to take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of your drivers and the general public, and in doing so will safeguard the reputation of your business.

Driving for Work is a comprehensive on-road course, aimed at improving the safety, confidence, and efficiency of all business drivers.

Vehicle types	Car
	Light commercial
Format	On-road
Duration	3 hours
Trainer : Delegate ratio	1:1

The risks for employers

For most drivers of cars and light vans, their driving test was the first and last time that their driving ability was ever formally assessed. Without any further training, many drivers then embark on a career in which driving is an essential task, carried out amid a range of pressures for which they have not been adequately prepared. Many employers are aware of this, either from the results of driver risk assessments or the gathering of telematics data, but do not fully appreciate the seriousness of the consequences that may result from a failure to intervene when concerns have been identified.

Work journeys account for nearly 1 in 3 UK road deaths



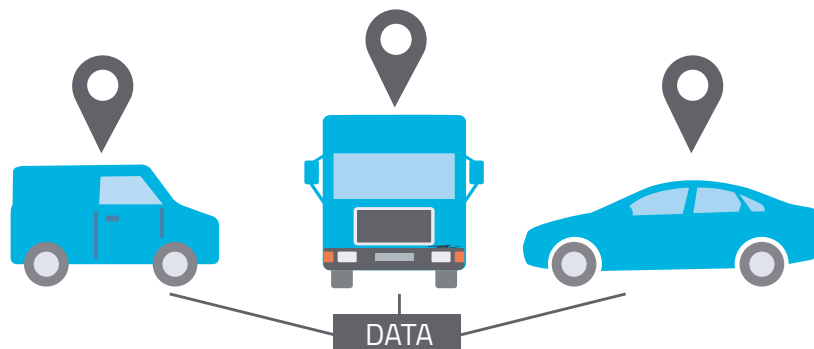
In 2019, 520 people died in collisions involving a driver or rider driving for work – 29% of the total number of road deaths¹.

Company drivers rack up an estimated 1.3 million penalties in a year



In 2021, leasing companies received and processed an estimated 1.3 million fines, with a total value of £68m, and charged around £27m in admin fees².

Failure to act on risk data puts fleets in danger of prosecution



Many employers know when a driver is high-risk, but failure to take remedial action can be costly. One bus operator, whose repeated failure to act on a particular driver's poor telematics data, was fined £2.3 million after the driver went on to kill a passenger and a pedestrian.

1. (National Highways and RoadSafe - 'Driving for work – a strategic review of risks associated with cars and light vans, implications for policy and practice')

2. (Fleet News FN50 report 2021)

Driving for Work

Course overview

Before the course



Prepare online

Get an overview of the course by watching an online introductory video; a chance for drivers to reflect on their existing experience and skills, and to focus on the areas in which they will benefit most from training.

Session 01



Eyesight and vehicle checks

It's essential that we verify vehicle and driver are roadworthy.



First on-road lesson: Eco-driving

Two drives of the same route, comparing the efficiency of normal driving vs eco driving. Debrief, discussion, analysis of the results of Eco-driving, followed by a demo drive by the trainer, reinforcing the information each delegate has been given.

Break time - A few moments to decompress and let the new learnings sink in.

Session 02



Principles of safe driving

An introduction to the three fundamentals of defensive driving: Observation, Anticipation, and Planning (OAP).



Confined space manoeuvring

Equips delegates with a systematic approach to parking and manoeuvring.



Combining and reinforcing skills

Each delegate's opportunity to develop skills learned so far, plus management of risk through correct use of space and speed, and discussion of attitudes and their effects on risk.

Debrief and evaluation



Discussion of the course

Reflecting on their performance, as well as any areas that would especially benefit from further development.



Driver Evaluation Report

The trainer provides a full Driver Evaluation Report for each trainee, detailing their performance and highlighting any development areas. A copy is provided for their employee record.

Drivers' FAQs

What will I need to bring?

You will need to attend in your own vehicle; ideally the one that you drive for work, and you will need to bring your driving licence. Remember to wear your glasses if you need them for driving; an eyesight check is always carried out at the start of our on-road courses.

Can I do the course in my van?

Our trainers are Approved Driving Instructors, who are skilled at applying the principles of Driving for Work across a range of vehicle types. For more in-depth training on the finer points of van driving, we also offer modules focusing on vehicle familiarisation, and on manoeuvring in confined spaces.

Is it a test?

There is no test to pass. Our instructor will observe your driving skills and behaviours, and offer constructive advice throughout the course. They will also complete a Driver Evaluation Report for you and your employer, confirming that you have completed the course, and recommending any areas for further skills development if applicable.

What about EVs and hybrids?

The safer driving principles covered in Driving for Work are applicable across all engine types, and the techniques taught in the eco-driving session also have benefits for optimising battery life in hybrid and fully electric vehicles. For a more in-depth exploration of these vehicle types, ask us about our EV Familiarisation course.

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About IAM RoadSmart

We're proud to be the UK's leading independent road safety charity, with a membership of 80,000 people across the country and a thriving community of volunteers, all working towards a common goal: protecting people from harm by improving driving standards in the UK.

The benefits to your business

Driver training helps to boost your drivers' safety and confidence. It can help reduce the stress that comes with business driving, resulting in a happier, more productive workforce.

Your business will be repaid with benefits that include:

- Fewer collisions and lower vehicle repair costs
- A greener, more efficient fleet
- Protection from prosecution, safeguarding your reputation

Get in touch and find out how IAM RoadSmart can help your fleet thrive.

