

The National Observer qualification is the Institute of Motor Industry (IMI) approved award for IAM RoadSmart Observers. Here is a short video <https://vimeo.com/931035298/c379954258> which gives you an overview of what is expected, and below is further information taken from the IAM website.

If it is something you are interested in, just email [neil.capstick@executivecompass.co.uk](mailto:neil.capstick@executivecompass.co.uk) or speak to one of the training team or a committee member. We would be happy to give you an overview of the process to help you with making the decision.

What skills do I need?

You'll need to:

- Be a full IAM RoadSmart member
- Be a member of an IAM affiliated group
- Have excellent communication skills
- Have a passion to help others develop their skills
- Be keen to encourage others to join the IAM RoadSmart community, and support the charities goals and objectives

- Who pays for the registration and qualification?

IAM RoadSmart pays for your registration and qualification with IMI.

- How long have I got to complete the qualification?

You have 12 months from registration to complete your training and take the assessment.

- What is the course material?

You will need an in-depth working knowledge of the Highway Code and the IAM RoadSmart Advanced Driver or Rider Course Logbook and a working knowledge of RoadCraft.

You'll need to refer to the IMI National Observer Competency Document and the National Observer Progress Summary Form (NOPS) and the National Observer Assessment Candidate Guidance Document, all available on the Observer Dashboards.

- How do I receive training?

Your Group will take you through a training programme during which you will be prepared for the on-road, practical assessment.

- What happens on the National Observer assessment?

This is an on-road, practical assessment of your observing and driving/riding

skills conducted by an Area Service Delivery Manager or a National Observer Assessor. The assessment is in two sections - Observing Skills and Driving/Riding Skills

For the observing assessment the Assessor will play the part of an associate – you'll be given a scenario with a subject to prepare for your observed session. This will be arranged in advance of your assessment, followed by written confirmation from your Assessor. Once you have completed the observing assessment the Assessor will check your driving/riding ability, on a route of your choice.

- How long does the assessment take?

Each part of the assessment is allocated 1 hour. Your session plan should include ensuring the session runs to the time schedule.

- What happens at the end of the assessment?

Your Assessor will let you know if you have been successful and give feedback on your performance. If you are unsuccessful your Assessor will give guidance on the areas, you need to work on and how you can prepare for a reassessment.

- Do I get a written report?

Yes, you will receive a written report reflecting the verbal feedback given by your Assessor, this will be followed by your IMI National Observer certificate which should arrive within two weeks.

- Once I'm qualified do I have to be reassessed?

Yes, IAM RoadSmart has a Quality Assurance programme for National Observers, you'll need to take a National Observer reassessment every 5 years. If you are unsuccessful you must undertake remedial training and be successfully reassessed before you can operate as an NO. You must advise IAM RoadSmart if you decide to stop observing.