

Issued: August 28, 2013

Program: **Automotive Service Technician 2**
To: ITA Training Providers
Automotive Training Standards Organization (ATSO)
RE: **OPSN 2013 017**
REMINDER: The Launching of Online Examinations for Automotive Service Technician 2 (AST 2)

Timing: Effective: September 3, 2013

Information: Please be advised that effective September 3, 2013, the Industry Training Authority (ITA) will be launching an online computer-based format for Automotive Service Technician 2 (AST 2) Certificate of Qualification (CofQ) examinations.

Please note that this OPSN is a reminder following the issuance on 30th January 2013 of OPSN 2013 002 - The Launching of Online Examinations for the Automotive Service Technician Program.

AST 2 classes beginning on or after September 3, 2013 will be able to write the AST 2 Certificate of Qualification exam through an online computer-based platform. Paper-based exams will continue if a training provider is unable to arrange a computer/lab. If training providers use the online computer-based platform a computer facility must be booked for a minimum of 4 hours to accommodate the online examination writing. The location of the computer/lab must be noted on the ITA Exam Request Form.

Online computer-based exams for AST 1 will be launched at a later date and will be delivered online. An OPSN will be issued at a future date to advise training providers of the launch date.

SLE Background information The benefits of having apprentices write through an online platform include:

- immediate processing of exam results and a quicker turnaround for exam marks;
- increased exam protection and security with the removal of paper-based exams;
- the ability to “scramble” questions which enhances security of the exam as questions will be presented in a different sequence for each candidate;
- colour diagrams can be easily reproduced;
- diagrams in the exams can be manipulated to clarify details, i.e., zoom-in capabilities;
- a consistent evaluation process for all examinations with the ability to quickly modify or remove questions as required.

**Scheduling the
AST 2 CofQ
exam**

The AST 2 CofQ exam is to be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure. Training providers are required to complete an ITA Exam Request Form six weeks prior to the scheduled exam date. Since AST 2 is a certification exam ITA will invigilate these exam requests.

**Training
Provider
Component**

Instructors are expected to follow the *Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings* table found on page 4 to calculate the final in-school percentage score. Instructors then enter the final in-school percentage score in ITA Direct Access.

Training providers delivering AST 2 in-school technical training are required to enter an in-school percentage score for each apprentice into ITA Direct Access.

**In-School
Technical
Training
Percentage
Score**

As per the *Grading Sheet: Subject Competencies and Weightings* table, the in-school percentage score for AST 2 is calculated from a percentage weighting of theory and practical assessments within the AST 2 training topics.

To calculate the in-school percentage score for AST 2:

- total the level theory column competency percentage score as noted in the competencies and weightings table and multiplying the total by 80% to produce a weighted theory percentage score;
- total the level practical column competency percentage score as noted in the competencies and weightings table and multiplying the total by 20% to produce a weighted practical percentage score;
- add the weighted theory and practical competency percentage scores together to determine the final in-school percentage score for AST 2;
- after completing the final percentage score for AST 2 on each apprentice enter the percentage score into ITA Direct Access.

**AST 2 Certificate
of Qualification
Exam
Percentage
Score**

A percentage score of 70% or greater is required for a pass.

ITA will administer and invigilate the AST 2 CofQ exams and score and record exam percentage scores in ITA Direct Access.

A score of 70% or greater is required for a pass.

**For more
information
contact:**

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Grading Sheet: Subject Competency and Weightings

PROGRAM: IN-SCHOOL TRAINING: ITA DIRECT ACCESS CODE:		AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIAN LEVEL 2 0002AM201	
LINE	TRAINING TOPICS & SUGGESTED TIME ALLOCATION	THEORY WEIGHTING	PRACTICAL WEIGHTING
A	Advanced Electrical Systems (28%)	20%	31%
B	Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems (19%)	22%	17%
C	Engines (39%)	38%	39%
D	Engine Support Systems (12%)	18%	13%
E	Hybrid Vehicle Safety (2%)	2%	0%
	Total	100%	100%
AST 2 in-school theory & practical subject competency weighting.		80%	20%
Calculated by the Training Provider: AST 2 in-school percentage score is calculated by the training provider by combining the 80% theory and 20% practical subject competency weightings. The final weighted in-school percentage score for the AST 2 in-school session is entered into ITA Direct Access by the training provider.		IN-SCHOOL%	

Training providers will enter the apprentices' AST 2 in-school percentage score in ITA Direct Access. A minimum mark of 70% or greater on the in-school session is required for a pass.

ITA will enter the apprentices' AST 2 Certificate of Qualification examination percentage score in ITA Direct Access. A minimum mark of 70% on the examination is required for a pass.