

How long do the courses last?

The practical and driving assessments are carried out individually:

Driving Assessment	up to	1h:30m
Practical Skills Assessment	up to	0h:45m

There may be some waiting around for some course members, although we try to ensure that such waiting times are minimised or used by course members to observe and learn from each other. The approximate classroom times are shown next to the prices below.

What is the cost?

Charges per person (exc. VAT) are listed below. A discount is available for registered charities.

MiDAS	Cost	Time
Standard Minibus Course	£80	3h:15m
Accessible Minibus Course	£100	6h:30m

Induction Course prices include a **MiDAS** Handbook. The Refresher Course prices are £10 lower if a new handbook is not required.

If an ES RTP minibus is required for the driving assessment, an extra £10 +VAT charge applies.

PATS	Cost	Time
Module A	£50*	3h:30m
Module B1	£10	1h:30m
Module B2	£10	1h:30m
Module C1	£10	1h:30m
Module C2	£10	1h:30m

*Price includes a PATS Handbook.

Booking Information

Insurance

As part of the MiDAS driving assessment our Driver Assessor-Trainer is required by MiDAS to undertake a short (10 minutes) driving demonstration with commentary. It is considered most beneficial to organisations if their drivers are assessed on their own minibuses. Therefore, before ES RTP accepts drivers on a MiDAS course, their organisation must send written confirmation that:

- It has comprehensive “all drivers” insurance that will cover our Driver Assessor-Trainer when driving its minibus.
- It has given permission for the ES RTP Driver Assessor-Trainer to drive its minibus.

Booking

Please call 01883 732877 or 01883 732760 to discuss your MiDAS or PATS requirements or e-mail: rtp@tandridge.gov.uk

Paying

We will invoice you after the MiDAS or PATS course has taken place.

Community Transport Association (CTA)



MiDAS and PATS originated with Hampshire County Council and are available nationwide through the CTA to give a nationally recognised qualification. Organisations booking MiDAS or PATS courses must be members of these schemes. Further information and application forms for free membership may be downloaded from www.ctauk.org/training

East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership

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Courses from East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership



MiDAS
Minibus Driver
Awareness Scheme

PATS

Passenger Assistant
Training Scheme



From March 2015

Introduction

Welcome to this leaflet giving details of MiDAS and PATS training and assessment courses run by the East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership.

What are MiDAS and PATS?

MiDAS - Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme

Includes information on the legal responsibilities of minibus drivers, passenger safety, defensive driving, health & safety awareness, accident & emergency procedures and personal safety for drivers.



Please Note: MiDAS is a voluntary standard mainly designed for car drivers who are licensed to drive minibuses but who have not taken a D1 (9-16 seat minibus) test. MiDAS is not a requirement of the Driving Standards Agency and does not convey a D1 licence entitlement. Car drivers under 70 who passed their UK car driving test before 1 January 1997 automatically have D1 entitlement. For full licensing and test information please go to:

www.dft.gov.uk/dvla and www.dft.gov.uk/dsa

PATS - Passenger Assistant Training Scheme

Includes information about the role of passenger assistants as listed in the module headings on the next page.



Where are the courses held?

The courses usually take place at the Tandridge District Council Offices in Oxted, but by mutual agreement they can be run at other suitable venues within east Surrey.

When are the courses held?

ESRTP run both courses on an ad-hoc basis. We normally require a minimum of 4 people per course (maximum of 6 for the Accessible Course). Numbers can be made up by people from several organisations.

What courses are available?

MiDAS has 2 courses covering:

- Standard Minibuses
- Accessible Minibuses



Both courses come in 2 forms:

- Induction for new **MiDAS** drivers
- Refresher for existing **MiDAS** drivers

Refresher courses must be taken every 4 years to enable renewal of **MiDAS** certificates.

The first part of the Accessible course is the same as the Standard course. The second part is equivalent to **PATS** Modules B1 and B2 (see below).

PATS has 7 modules:

- A - The Role of the Passenger Assistant
- B1 - Passenger Awareness & Assistance
- B2 - Assisting Passengers who Travel in their Wheelchairs
- C1 - Supervising Children and Young People with Special Needs
- C2 - Working with Adults who Require Care and Supervision
- D - Emergency Aid
- E - Manual Handling

Module A is the foundation module for everyone, whilst the other modules are optional according to the needs of each organisation.

ESRTP is currently able to offer Modules A to C2.

Modules D and E are available through the Community Transport Association - see over.

What is the format of the courses?

Group Sessions

MiDAS and PATS courses consist of classroom sessions with Powerpoint presentations, group exercises and discussions. At the end of each session there is a Theory Assessment based on the topics covered. Each question has a choice of up to 4 possible answers, but only one answer is correct. The pass mark is 80%.

Individual Assessments

All 4 variations of the **MiDAS** course include a Driving Assessment. All drivers should bring their driving licences (both parts if applicable) to the MiDAS course.

The Accessible Minibus MiDAS courses also include a Practical Skills Assessment involving the safe restraint of a passenger seated in a wheelchair within a minibus, as well as safe boarding and alighting procedures.



PATS Modules B1 and B2 also have Practical Skills Assessments. The one for Module B1 involves assisting people with walking difficulties, those who are partially sighted and those in wheelchairs. The one for Module B2 is the same as that for the Accessible MiDAS course (above).

Refresher Courses

Both MiDAS and PATS Refresher courses include the same main elements as the Induction courses, but the classroom sessions are slightly shorter.

Refresher training is not required for PATS certificate renewal but is available for Modules A to B2 if required.