

Training during COVID-19 lockdown

Dear all,

In response to the Dutch Corona-lockdown that started on Tuesday December 15, we would like to inform all those involved in offshore training with the following:

First:

We do not automatically view the training of employees from the gas production / oil supply as an indispensable support function. It may happen that a person has to be trained to allow the (vital) process of an operator to continue. In that case, the operator can declare this, after which the person can be trained within the framework of the lockdown measures.

Operators will use NOGEPA training as little as possible during this lockdown except when a person's training is deemed necessary for the process to continue.

Second:

NOGEPA is temporarily expanding its standard dispensation scheme for the period from December 15, 2020 to February 15, 2021. The dispensation rules are expanded until February 15 as follows:

- All NOGEPA certificates and current NOGEPA-training-dispensations that expire in the period December 15, 2020 – February 15, 2021, may automatically be viewed as “valid until February 15, 2021”. There are no additional administrative actions required for this.
- As per February 15, 2021 there will be no exceptional dispensations in circulation based on the expansion described here. Only dispensations based on regular dispensation request will be valid.

So people whose dispensation period expires, or whose basic- or refresher certificate expires between December 15, 2020 and February 15, 2021, will have automatic dispensation until February 15, 2021, so that they can still do their refresher course after the lockdown. The expired qualification will be refreshed; the validity of the new certificate starts from the expiry date of the previous certificate (see explanation below for further clarification)

This expansion is based in the assumption that the lockdown will become less strict before February 15, such that training will become possible before Feb. 15. If the lockdown gets extended, this expansion will be revised to match the new situation.

We hope to have informed you sufficiently.

Sincerely,

NOGEPA

Explanation for the NOGEPA dispensation rules between December 15, 2020 and February 15, 2021.

All NOGEPA training certificates and all dispensations that expire between December 15, 2020 and February 15, 2021 may automatically be viewed as ‘valid until February 15, 2021’. No additional administration is required for this. Whoever wishes to make use of the regular dispensation rules can do so by making a dispensation request in the regular manner (see example 2a below)

For example:

1. A Basic certificate that expires on December 30, 2020 is automatically valid until February 2021. So a refresher training can be done until Feb. 15 without further administration
2. A Refresher certificate that expires on January 10, 2021 is automatically valid until February 2021. So a refresher training can be done without a dispensation request until Feb. 15. No further administration.
 - a. Within the regular dispensation framework, this person could receive dispensation until April 10 2021 (3 months after expiry of the original certificate). If this regular dispensation is

wanted it must be requested in the normal manner, so through a training provider or via dispensation@nogepa.nl

3. A dispensation that expires on January 20, 2021 is automatically valid until February 15, 2021. This situation may arise when a regular dispensation is requested for a refresher certificate that expires for example on October 20, 2020. The regular dispensation lasts for 3 months, so January 20 in this case. Because training prior to Jan. 20th will be hampered, this dispensation will also be extended until February 15, 2021.

In all cases the validity of the new certificate will be based upon the previous certificate, no on the training date. So for a qualification with a 2 year validity this would be true for the examples given above:

Example	Expiry date current certificate	Trained on	Expiry date new certificate
1	Dec. 30, 2020	Feb. 10, 2021	Dec. 30, 2022
2	Jan. 10, 2021	Feb. 10, 2021	Jan. 10, 2023
2a	Jan. 10, 2021	April 5, 2021	Jan. 10, 2023
3	Oct. 20, 2020	Feb. 10, 2021	Oct. 20, 2022