



Light 4WD / All-wheel Drive (AWD) Training Course Options

Two Day Unit Standard Course

This course entails a day theory and assessment followed by a full day of practical field training and assessment.

The applicants are assessed against the unit standards and receive a 'Certificate of Assessment.'

Ideally for applicants:

- With limited experience.
- Required to obtain the specific unit standards for recognised compliance training.
- Who have not completed any compliance refresher training in more than five (5) years (recommendation).

One Day Competency Course

This course entails approximately 1.5 hours theory followed by practical driving covering fundamental attributes for transport operation in an off-road environment.

Applicants on this course receive a 'Certificate of Attendance.'

Ideally for applicants:

- Who have previously completed unit standard training within the last four (4) years (This prior experience may need to be verified).
- Wishing to obtain specific training that does not require unit standards.
- Who have changed their vehicle/fleet thus operators require an introduction to the unfamiliar features & latest technology to ensure their safety both on & off-road.

Indictive Course Fees: Effective for all bookings made as of 1 January 2026

Region	NZQA 2 Day	1 Day Competency
Northland	\$5,520	\$4,090
Auckland	\$5,520	\$4,090
Waikato	\$5,300	\$4,110
Bay of Plenty	\$5,300	\$4,110
Gisborne	\$5,540	\$4,190
Hawkes Bay	\$4,000	\$2,900
Taranaki	\$5,460	\$4,155
Manawatu	\$4,980	\$3,790
Wellington	\$5,300	\$4,110
Tasman / Nelson	\$5,210	\$3,905
Marlborough	\$5,210	\$3,905
West Coast	\$5,360	\$4,090
Canterbury	\$5,360	\$4,090
Otago	\$5,360	\$4,090
Southland	\$5,360	\$4,090



Contextualised Rural, Forest & Corporate Fleet Support



Please note that the above indicative course fees:

- Prices indicated are reviewed where multiple jobs are scheduled to reduce un-necessary travel costs.
- Prices exclude practical venue fees and GST.
- Practical venue fees vary from \$300-\$500 per day.
- Are based on vehicles being provided by the client – 1 machine per 1-3 applicants.
- Once a course is confirmed, any non-refundable disbursements maybe on charged.

Your investment includes the following:

- Qualified & experienced instructor
- Learning resources, assessments & their ongoing development
- NZQA registration (NZQA courses only)
- Travel time (one-way)
- Rental vehicle hire & running costs (if applicable)
- Flights / Ferry (if applicable)
- Accommodation & meals (if applicable)

Please note:

The US course is suited to 4WD vehicles fitted with 4WD low range capability. Should AWD vehicles attend our 4WD courses, your instructor can provide training to meet suitable and safe limits these vehicles are designed for. It should not be expected to drive all places a 4WD can. Terrain conditions will vary, setting possible limitations.

We welcome further discussion around AWD specific training should this be required for your fleet operators.

Course details

Enrolment: 8 candidates maximum

Location of training:

Theory (NZQA courses only) – will take place at your workplace in a designated room suitable to deliver a presentation and complete assessment. Alternatively, an external suitable venue maybe organised by the client.

Practical – can take place at one our approved venues or at a place of your choice within our suitability guidelines.

Unit Standards (US) included: (if applicable)

17976 – DKO operating a light four-wheel drive in an off-road environment.

¹17978 – Operate a light four-wheel drive in an off-road environment.

Training includes:

- Responsibilities under the H&S at Work Act 2015
- Pre/Post vehicle checks using TCLOCS
- Modes and vehicle technology familiarisation in specific vehicles on site
- Hazard ID and Safety Margin Assessment (HISMA)
- Tyres – pressures – tread design and the relevance to traction
- Vehicle dynamics utilising - movement, momentum, traction, torque, gravity & centrifugal force combinations
- Driving on low friction surfaces
- Negotiating uneven terrain – Descents | Ascents | Sidelings

- Water crossings (dependant on venue. Not compulsory for competency based courses)

Entry Requirements:

¹For unit standard 17978 candidates must:

- Have achieved 17976 (applicable to US training only)
- Hold the appropriate licence for the type of vehicle driven.

Post Course Support:

On completion of training, we can provide a post course report to support your training records.

Supporting training value:

We are able to further compliment and contextualise your training by addressing any concerns where areas of the following are communicated to us prior to training commencing.

- Near miss, incident and accidents
- Unusually high levels of repair and maintenance
- Culture
- Company policies and/or Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

Other fleet support for your business:

Natural Instincts also provide fleet support services inclusive of AWD's, 4WD's, trailers, LUVs and Quads.

Opportunities to support safety and compliance around fleet includes:

- Ability to weigh vehicles on site with our portable scales to assist with correct load placement ensuring compliance.
- Fleet reviews inclusive of comprehensive reporting and recommendations.
- Off-road related accident and incident investigations.
- Transport options evaluation support.

Feel free to visit www.naturalinstincts.co.nz or email the NI team at admin@naturalinstincts.co.nz for more information.

