

ACS RATING

Area Control Surveillance



ACS Rating course aim

The course is designed to impart knowledge and skills to students that are necessary for them to receive a student air traffic controller license for an Area Control Surveillance rating (TCL endorsement included).

Course objectives

After completion of the ACS rating training, the student controller will be able to perform within a team as an executive (radar) controller and alternatively as a planner controller in the airspace defined for simulations, whilst providing air traffic services to a minimum of 35 aircraft/hour in the lower airspace and 45 aircraft/hour in the upper airspace, in a modern non-strip area control environment. The provision of the service will be executed in compliance with relevant rules, procedures and working methods in accordance with the objectives in the training plan.

Course overview

The majority of the time is spent on practical training in an ATC simulator supported by theoretical topics in the classroom.

Divided into five phases, the course starts with focusing on the individual skills of the executive controller followed by the specific tasks of the planner controller. The basics of managing unusual occurrences are followed by building up the ability to manage high traffic rates in a two sector environment. During the last phase, the traffic rates are maintained at the same level, but the complexity is increased, for example by adding unusual occurrences into the normal routines.

During the ACS course, the emphasis is on simulator training. By the end of the course, the students will have performed a total of 100 hours in the radar simulator, training as an executive and planner controller in a non-strip environment.

Prerequisites

Approved results from the [Basic ATC course \(https://www.entrypointnorth.com/training/air-traffic-controller-basic-course\)](https://www.entrypointnorth.com/training/air-traffic-controller-basic-course) at Entry Point North or another EU-recognised training facility.

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Compliance with regulations

- The ACS rating course is compliant with Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/340 and EUROCONTROL Common Core Content Edition 2.0.
- The course is approved by the Swedish CAA.
- Entry Point North academy is certified as a Training Organization according to European Regulations by the Swedish CAA.

Content in brief

Executive controller

Introduction of the ACS Rating course and the radar techniques in area control, taking into account aircraft performance at medium/high altitudes and at high speeds and the navigational ability in the en route phase of flight. Application of all the different radar techniques, as described in the training event objectives. The student will perform as executive (radar) controller and correctly apply relevant rules, agreed procedures and working methods for a minimum of 20 aircraft/hour.

Planning controller

Training directed to learning methods and procedures in how to work as planning controller together with an executive controller.

Application of the relevant procedures and methods a planning controller uses in the detection of potential entry conflicts, system inputs, establishment of exit conditions and the making of appropriate co-ordinations with subjacent/adjacent units i.e. issuance of the appropriate ATC clearances for departing aircraft, as well as the co-operation with the executive controller.

The students shall acquire, decode and make proper use of meteorological information relevant to the provision of air traffic services.

Unusual occurrences

The students learn to manage air traffic in unusual/emergency situations. Also, they will integrate system degradation procedures in the management of air traffic.

Capacity training

The students build up their ability to handle more and more traffic as well as to handle new situations by applying a range of different solutions. The objective is to be able to carry out the duties as planning controller and executive controller for a minimum of 35 aircraft/hour in the simulated lower airspace and 45 aircraft/hour in the simulated upper airspace.

Consolidation training

The students integrate all knowledge and skills acquired during the course and master new situations by using the models they have learnt.

They will manage air traffic to ensure safe, orderly and expeditious services, while performing within a team, both as executive (radar) controller and alternatively as planning controller, in the airspace defined for simulations.

Course code: ACS
Duration: 14 weeks (70 days)

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ATS Academy

Familiarisation

Study visits to air traffic control facilities and aviation-related environments.