



## BREATHING APPARATUS (BA) TEST

Prior to this test the instructor will fit the BA mask and ensure that it is sealed correctly.

This test simulates the wearing of fire service BA, which assesses the candidate moving through darkness and confined spaces. To complete the test successfully sufficient progress must be made through the BA crawling gallery negotiating various obstacles and height changes.

- Candidates must wear a BA face mask and make their way around the BA crawling gallery. Once at the end point, the mask will be obscured so it will be difficult to see when returning to the starting point.
- The BA face mask will be worn on the first floor external landing of the BA smoke house.
- The instructor will lead the candidate to the BA crawling gallery entrance before the candidate is required to navigate around the cage by feeling ahead and by crawling on 'all fours', ensuring that all drops are negotiated feet first and stairs are negotiated backwards.
- The cage follows a route through different levels and through various obstacles. There is a clear route to the exit point. On reaching the exit a facilitator will be waiting to assist with exiting the BA crawling gallery.

Failure to make sufficient progress at any point within 30 seconds (as in not proactively looking at ways to overcome an obstacle or not checking the direction of travel), will result in the facilitator providing coaching assistance.

Failure to make further progress following the coaching, or removal of the BA mask, refusal to make progress or the applicant feeling uncomfortable with the conditions will result in the applicant being removed from this part of the assessment.