

ERA Course - Coronavirus (COVID-19): update for ERA 2020 course participants

The update immediately below is current and supersedes previous dated updates but in the interests of transparency, earlier updates are also shown. This notice is published on the ERA Course web site. If you have accessed this notice previously, your computer may not display the latest version; to see the latest version, refresh your browser (usually Ctrl-F5 on a Windows PC) or clear your browser data.

Update 01/05/2020:

A provisional date for the postponed ERA course has been agreed with the course venue (Cedar Court Hotel) in Harrogate: 5 – 9 October 2020, contingent on advice and restrictions from the UK government in force at the time. This date may change in response to the COVID-19 situation so please do not book accommodation or travel at this stage; this date is to allow you to put the provisional date in your diary. The date will be confirmed or changed as necessary but we will endeavour to give you as much notice as we can.

Update 20/03/2020:

Official: the ERA course planned for 11-15 May 2020 is being postponed, in order to comply with the UK government advice on non-essential travel and on social distancing. That advice is unlikely to be lifted in time for the course to run in May 2020. Options for a replacement course will be considered as the COVID-19 situation evolves and hopefully resolves but because the timescale for that is uncertain, we anticipate having to delay that decision at least until the latter half of 2020.

For registered 2020 ERA course participants:

As the course is not being held in May 2020, we suggest you cancel any travel and accommodation arrangements you have already made. We are unable to refund any expenses you have already incurred for travel or accommodation.

If you have had notification from us confirming receipt of your course fee, that fee will be automatically transferred a replacement course. At any time you have the option to have your course fee refunded, for example if the dates or venue of the replacement course, when published, don't suit you. You can request a refund of your course fee immediately if you wish; just let us know. Course fees can be returned only to the person or institution that made the payment.

Update 17/03/2020:

The advice from the UK government on 16/03/2020, placing restrictions on non-essential travel and on social distancing are such that it will not be possible to run the ERA course as planned in May 2020. Rather than cancel the course entirely, we are exploring the possibility of postponing the course. Details of the date and venue of a replacement course will not become available until the situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic becomes clearer; this may take several months.

For registered 2020 ERA course participants:

As the course is not being held in May 2020, we suggest you cancel any travel and accommodation arrangements you have already made. We will be unable to refund any expenses incurred for travel or accommodation.

You have the option to cancel your place on the May 2020 course, and receive a reimbursement of the course fee we have received.

Alternatively, you can opt to transfer your registration to a replacement course (there would be no increase in course fee). If at a later date you decide to cancel (because the date or venue of the replacement course does not suit you) then we would reimburse the course fee we have received. We will be contacting registered course participants directly and will post further updates here.

Update 06/03/2020:

In the light of the rapidly changing situation regarding COVID-19, this is clarification of our ERA 2020 course cancellation policy.

We will follow UK government advice regarding travel and holding events of up to 40 people. If that advice is such that we have to cancel the May 2020 ERA course, we will give you as much advance notice of that decision as possible and provide a full refund of your course fee, regardless of notice period. We will be unable to refund any expenses incurred for travel or accommodation.

For overseas course participants:

If you choose to cancel your attendance of the course at a time when the advice of both the UK government and your own government do not advise against international travel to the UK (i.e. travel between our countries and attending events is still considered safe) then we would apply the cancellation policy stated on the course application form[#]. If either country's government warns against travel to the UK then we will provide a full refund of your course fee, regardless of notice period.

For UK course participants:

If you choose to cancel your attendance of the course at a time when the UK government does not advise against travel within the UK (i.e. travel within the UK and attending events is still considered safe) then we would apply the cancellation policy stated on the course application form[#].

I will of course give all course participants the earliest possible notice of any decision by us to cancel. Unless you hear from me to the contrary, assume the course will go ahead.

This notice and future updates will be posted on the course web page:

<https://www.eratraining.co.uk/courses.html>

If you haven't yet arranged your travel, you may wish to delay making those arrangements, and consider obtaining suitable travel insurance.

Guy Lightfoot 06/03/2020

The following cancellation charges apply (refer to the course application form for full text):

- for cancellations received 14 days or less before the course (on or after 27th April 2020): 100% of the course fee (no refund);
- for cancellations received 2 to 6 weeks before the course (30th March to 28th April): 50% of the course fee (50% refund);
- for cancellations made before 30th March: no charge (full refund).