

An Introduction to the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS)

The Construction Skills Certification Scheme was created to reduce the number and severity of workplace accidents and injuries in the UK's construction industry.



Construction Skills
Certification Scheme

It was determined that having a single, unified system of skill and safety certification would make it easier for employers and managers within the industry to identify and hire HSE-trained, qualified and experienced people, and to encourage anyone interested in a career in construction to seek such training and qualifications on their own.

From the 30th September 2017 Construction Related Occupation (CRO) cards became obsolete, introducing a new approach of 'skilled worker' cards with a requirement for a formal qualification. A CRO (also known as grandfather rights) card cannot be renewed.

How can I get a CSCS Card and which one to apply for?

To apply for a **Blue Skilled Worker card**, an applicant is required to hold one of the following:

- NVQ Level 2 or 3
- Approved Apprenticeship (for example, completion proof of SBATC / NJCBI)

If you do not have any of the above qualifications but have on the job experience (normally at least one year in the last three) you can apply for a **Red Temporary Experienced Worker Card**, valid for one year only whilst a qualification is gained.

For new entrants to the sector that are working towards a qualification a **Red Trainee or Apprentice Card** can be applied for as a step towards an Experienced Worker Card.

The **Green Labourer Card** is still available to those working on site but not in a skilled capacity (i.e. cleaning, ground work, etc).

For all card applications you will need to pass the Health and Safety Test (commonly referred to as the touchscreen test) and apply online at www.cscs.uk.com

What is the cost?

The Health and Safety Test is a cost of £19.50. This can be booked online at www.citb.co.uk/hsandetest or by calling the test bookings team on 0344 994 4488. Times, dates and venues available for the test will be confirmed at the time of booking.

Once the test has been passed the individual can contact the CSCS Helpdesk on 0344 994 4777 to apply.

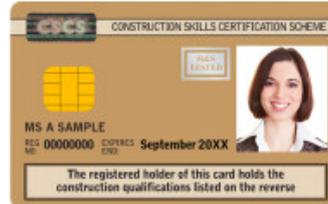
They will need to have a debit/credit card available to make the payment of £30.00 per card. The Customer Coordinator will then be able to process and request the card whilst they are on the phone (providing all criteria for the card applied for has been met) this will be sent out the next working day via first class post.

Are there any other options?

There are other options for certification that can be applied for with higher levels of qualifications than NVQ Level Three.



Advanced Craft



Supervisory



Manager



Academically Qualified Person



Construction Site Visitor



Professionally Qualified Person

For more details on these cards please contact centremanager@mpba.biz