

The CSCS scheme helps you throughout your whole career

The different routes to getting a CSCS card

Workers normally need to have achieved an N/SVQ to be eligible for a CSCS card. However, there are other routes into the scheme such as the trainee and experienced worker cards for people who are working towards their N/SVQ, industry accreditation, professional membership or visitor cards.

CSCS card	Who qualifies?
Trainee	Available to trainees registered for an N/SVQ level 2 through their college. The card is valid for 3 years.
Skilled	Workers who hold the appropriate N/SVQ or have completed an apprenticeship. It may also be possible to qualify via 'Industry Accreditation' which allows an employer to 'sign-off' workers' skills in place of formal qualifications – this is only available for a limited period of time after each occupation becomes available under the scheme. The card is valid for 5 years and is then renewable.
Experienced Worker	Available to operatives who have registered for N/SVQ level 2 or 3 and have completed their profiling session. The card is valid for 1 year and is non-renewable.
Professional Membership	Membership of some professional bodies is treated as equivalent to an N/SVQ, up to levels three or four in certain occupations. If you are a member of certain professional bodies, are up to date with your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and have passed an appropriate health and safety test, you can qualify for a CSCS card. Please contact the CSCS Helpdesk on 0870 4178777 for the current list of qualifying professions. The card is valid for 5 years and is then renewable.
Visitor	For regular visitors to construction sites who do not perform a construction specific skill (e.g. delivery drivers). The card is valid for 5 years.
CRO	For workers in the construction related occupations who currently don't have a CSCS card. The card is valid for five years.



Your quick guide to CSCS

PO Box 114 Bircham Newton King's Lynn Norfolk PE31 6XD
Tel: 0870 4178777 Fax: 01485 577601 www.cscs.uk.com

CSCS is owned and managed by CSCS Limited.

Get Qualified. Get On.

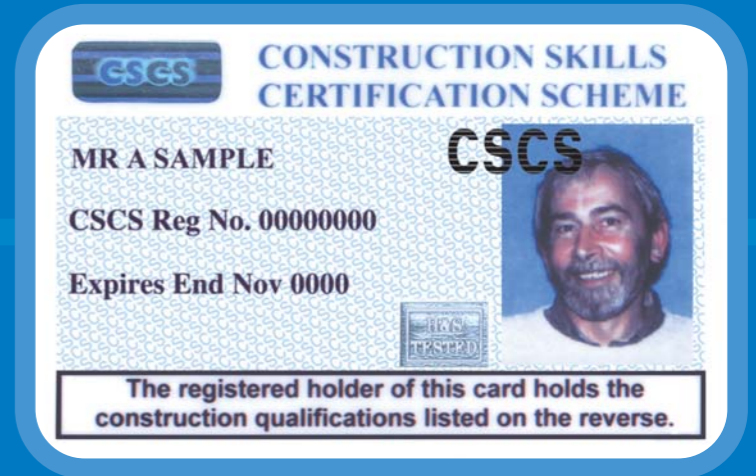


FSW11573AY0G/Rev2/12.06

Get Qualified. Get On.



Your quick guide to CSCS



The card scheme that covers a whole career

Quality up, accidents down and cowboy builders out were the main objectives for the formation of the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) which was launched ten years ago. Today its main purpose is still to help workers prove that they are competent to do their job. It also shows that they have health and safety awareness as all cardholders have to pass the appropriate health and safety test.

CSCS cards list the holder's qualifications and are valid for either three or five years. There are more than 950,000 CSCS or affiliated cardholders. The Scheme covers over 250 occupations and is fast becoming the industry standard. It is supported by industry organisations such as Major Contractors Group (MCG) and National Construction Federation (NCF). Major clients like BAA, the NHS and many local councils are all now demanding proof of competence before allowing workers onto their sites.

The levels of card available

The cards are based on the N/SVQ system. There are different coloured cards for each of the levels.

So whatever stage you are in your career, there's a CSCS card that's right for you.

The back of each CSCS card states which occupation(s) you are qualified in.

The CSCS card proves the holder is competent and safe.

Competence –

The CSCS scheme is based on N/SVQ qualifications which prove the cardholder is up to the job.



Safety –

Cardholders must pass the CITB-ConstructionSkills Health and Safety Test to prove they're safe on site.

Some of the main benefits of the scheme are:

- It helps workers get onto more sites
- It's an easy way for workers to prove their skills
- It raises the general quality of workmanship on site
- It improves health and safety awareness across the industry
- Employers have competent and safe labour.



One card covers the whole industry

CSCS now has over 950,000 cardholders and it is being asked for by an increasing number of clients in tender documents and at site gates. For most occupations, one call to the CSCS Helpdesk gets you started or provides the information that you need.

Other occupations listed below are covered by amalgamated or affiliated schemes. The cards and procedures are slightly different, but you can still call the CSCS Helpdesk in the first instance and they will be able to connect you to the appropriate scheme.

- **CPCS** A card scheme for plant operators 0870 4177274
- **CISRS** A card scheme for scaffolders 0870 4177223
- **SKILLcard** A card scheme for heating and ventilating operatives 01768 860406
- **CCDO** A card scheme for demolition operatives 0870 4173366
- **JIB-PMES** A card scheme for English and Welsh plumbers 01480 476925
- **SNIJIB** A card scheme for Scottish and Northern Irish plumbers 0131 225225
- **ECS** A card scheme for electricians 020 83020031 (0131 4455577 Scottish)
- **CSR** The Northern Irish equivalent to CSCS, offering cards in the same trades 028 90877150

To check if your trade is covered by CSCS or an affiliated scheme call the **CSCS helpdesk on 0870 4178777**



Red
Working towards N/SVQ level 2 or 3
Trainee



Gold
N/SVQ level 3**
Advanced Craft/
Supervisory



Green
N/SVQ level 1 OR
Sign-off from employer*
Construction Site
Operative (labourer)



Platinum
N/SVQ level 4
Management



Blue
Working towards N/SVQ level 2 or 3
Experienced worker



Black
N/SVQ level 5
Senior Management



Blue
N/SVQ level 2**
Craft



Yellow
N/SVQ level n/a
Visitor (no
construction skills)



White
– N/SVQ level n/a
Construction Related
Occupation

All cards require the applicant to pass the CITB-ConstructionSkills Health and Safety Test.

For information on exemptions call the CSCS Helpdesk on 0870 4178777.

* An employer can sign off an individual's competence in place of N/SVQ level 1.

** Formal indentured apprenticeships which didn't lead to an N/SVQ may exempt workers from having to get the qualification.

For more information call the CSCS Helpdesk on 0870 4178777.

How to apply

Just call the CSCS Helpdesk. One of our advisors will help you find out which cards you are eligible for and send you the relevant application pack.

How much does it cost?

All cards cost £25

Further Information

CSCS

You can find lots more information on CSCS at www.cscs.uk.com Alternatively, you can find out all you need to know by calling the CSCS Helpdesk on 0870 4178777

Health and Safety

To get a card you need to pass the health and safety test. Visit www.citb-constructionskills.co.uk/health_safety or call 0870 600 4020 for more information on the Health and Safety Test.

Training and Funding

CITB-ConstructionSkills can help workers without N/SVQ get qualified with the minimum of fuss through on-site assessment and training (OSAT).

They also provide grants to registered companies for a range of activities including training and passing the health and safety test.

To find out more, visit www.citb-constructionskills.co.uk or call 0870 4177577

