



# A quick guide to CSCS



Check  
qualifications



Check  
identity



Manage training  
records



Tackle  
fraud



Time & attendance  
recording



Access  
control

## What?

CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) is the leading certification card scheme for construction. Since it was established in 1995 the Scheme has developed to meet the changing needs of the industry and there are now over 2 million cards displaying the CSCS logo.



## Who?

Most major contractors and homebuilders require workers on their sites to hold a valid CSCS card as a means to certify their qualifications and training. It is important that you hold the right CSCS card for the type of work you undertake. If you do not have a card, or hold the wrong card, access to construction sites may be denied.



## Why?

CSCS cards provide a means to verify that people who work on construction sites have the necessary training and qualifications for the type of work they carry out. The Scheme keeps a database of those working in construction who have, or are committed to achieving, a recognised construction related qualification.

Having a CSCS card verifies your identity and shows employers that you have the required qualifications, training and experience to carry out your work on a construction site.

It is vital that construction contractors and clients use a consistent method to check workers' CSCS cards before allowing them on site. Often this has meant a combination of scanning, photocopying or manually recording cardholders' details. However, by using smart technology built into CSCS cards and with an inexpensive card reader, smartphones or tablet devices, cards can be checked and data recorded within seconds.

CSCS cards can be used for many purposes beyond just checking and storing site workers' identification and qualifications, including access control and recording onsite training sessions. The ability for your CSCS SmartCard to be used for a host of additional applications means that this could be the only work related card you need to carry.

## The CSCS Board

CSCS Board Directors come from:



**Construction Industry Council**  
[www.cic.org.uk](http://www.cic.org.uk)



**GMB Union**  
[www.gmb.org.uk](http://www.gmb.org.uk)



**Construction Clients' Group**  
[www.constructingexcellence.org.uk](http://www.constructingexcellence.org.uk)



**Build UK**  
[www.builduk.org](http://www.builduk.org)



**Civil Engineering Contractors Association**  
[www.ceca.co.uk](http://www.ceca.co.uk)



**Unite the Union**  
[www.unitetheunion.com](http://www.unitetheunion.com)



**Federation of Master Builders**  
[www.fmb.org.uk](http://www.fmb.org.uk)

# Which card is right for you?

There is a wide range of cards covering hundreds of construction related occupations.

Check which card you should apply for by visiting [www.cscs.uk.com/cardfinder](http://www.cscs.uk.com/cardfinder)

Most card applicants must pass the relevant CITB Health, Safety and Environment Test.



**Provisional**  
(temporary card)



**Trainee**



**Apprentice**



**Experienced Worker**



**Experienced Technical,  
Supervisor or Manager**



**Labourer**



**Basic Skills**  
(CSCS stopped issuing this card from  
3rd September 2018)



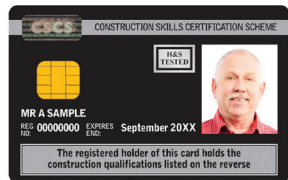
**Skilled**



**Advanced Craft**



**Supervisory**



**Management**



**Professionally Qualified Person**



**Academically Qualified Person**



**Construction Related Occupation**  
(CSCS stopped issuing this card  
from April 2017)



**Visitor**  
(CSCS will stop issuing this card  
from 31st August 2020)

## Partner Card Schemes

CSCS works closely with a number of card schemes which carry the CSCS logo. To apply for any of these cards, contact the relevant organisation directly.

Scheme	Occupations covered	Contact/Website
ALLMI	 Lorry loader manufacturers and importers	0844 858 4334 www.allmi.com
ACAD	 Asbestos Analysts and Surveyors Asbestos Removal	0333 3237 751 www.acad.tica-acad.co.uk
ACE	 Engineering	0182 7216 136 www.ecitb.org.uk
ADSA	 Automatic Doors	0144 221 7144 www.adsa.org.uk
ARMI	 Asbestos Removal	0128 3566 467 www.armi.org.uk
CCDO	 Demolition	0144 221 7144 www.ndtg.training
CSIM	 Drinks Dispense Technicians	0190 242 2303 www.bfbi.org.uk
CSWIP	 Welding Sector	0122 3899 000 www.cswip.com
CISRS	 Scaffolding	0844 815 7223 www.cisrs.org.uk
CPCS	 Plant Operatives	0844 815 7274 www.citb.co.uk
CSCS	 Construction	0344 994 4777 www.cscs.uk.com
CSR NI	 Construction (Northern Ireland only)	0289 087 7150 www.cefni.co.uk
Doorsafe	 Automatic door installers	0207 788 7676 door-safe.co.uk
DSA	 Drilling and Sawing Contractors	0844 879 3452 www.drillandsaw.org.uk

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Scheme	Occupations covered	Contact
ECS	 Electrical Contractors	0132 266 1600 www.ecscard.org.uk
ECS (Scotland only)	 Electrical Contractors (Scotland only)	0131 445 9216 www.sjib.org.uk
EUSR	 Utilities	0845 077 9922 www.eusr.co.uk
FISS	 Fencing	0247 6696 996 www.lantra.co.uk/fisscscs
GEA	 Garage Equipment Installers	0132 731 2616 www.gea.co.uk
ICATS	 Industrial Coatings	0160 4438 222 www.icats-training.org
IexpE	 Explosive Engineers	0178 5594 136 www.iexpe.org
LISS/CSCS	 Landscaping	0247 6690 333 www.bali.org.uk
MPQC	 Extractive Plant Operators	0115 983 5755 www.mpskills.co.uk
NPORS	 Plant Operatives	0160 6351 240 www.npors.com
PAL	 Powered access operatives	0153 9566 700 www.ipaf.org/en
PHMES	 Plumbing	0148 0476 925 www.jib-pmes.org
Q-Card	 Construction and Glazing	0114 272 0033 gqaqualifications.com



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Scheme	Occupations covered	Contact
SAFed	 Engineering Inspectors	0207 582 3208 www.safed.co.uk
SICCS	 Shopfitters	0844 847 4409 www.shopfitters.org
SKILLcard	 Building Engineering Services Contractors	0176 886 0406 www.skillcard.org.uk
SNIEPF	 Plumbing	0131 556 0600 www.sniefp.org
TEAM Card	 Lifting Equipment	0148 0432 801 www.leeaint.com/uk
SEIRS	 Storage Equipment Installers	0121 601 6718 www.seirs.org.uk
TICA	 Thermal Installation Installers	skillcard@tica.uk.com www.tica-acad.co.uk/tica-home/
Train the painter	 Painters	0125 273 2220 www.corrodere.com
TTM	 Temporary Traffic Management	0247 6696 996 www.lantra.co.uk

Other card schemes are in the process of applying to carry the CSCS logo on their cards. We look forward to updating this list as other schemes meet the requirements to display the CSCS logo on their cards.

## How?

There are two main ways to apply for a CSCS card:

### 1. Individual Application

Call the CSCS Contact Centre on 0344 994 4777. You will be asked about your job, what construction related qualifications you have achieved and if you belong to a recognised professional body.

You will need to provide your name, home address, date of birth and National Insurance number and have a credit or debit card to pay for the CSCS card and the CITB test.

You will be advised about which is the right CSCS card for the type of work you carry out and which level of the CITB's Health, Safety and Environment Test you need to book.

Alternatively download an application form from the CSCS website and then complete and return it with the required documentation and payment.

### 2. Employer Application

If you are an employer and wish to apply on behalf of your employees then visit [www.cscs.uk.com/employer](http://www.cscs.uk.com/employer) to complete the Online Employer Application form.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT A CSCS CARD COSTS £36 AND THE CITB HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT TEST IS £21. THERE ARE COMPANIES THAT PROVIDE UNOFFICIAL CSCS CARD APPLICATION AND TEST BOOKING SERVICES. BEFORE USING THESE COMPANIES CHECK WHAT THEY WILL CHARGE YOU AND WHETHER YOU ARE HAPPY WITH THIS COST.**



## How much?

**The CSCS card costs £36.00.  
The CITB Health and Safety Test costs £21.**

## What if?

**If you move house or change occupation you should call the CSCS Contact Centre on 0344 994 4777 or the Partner Card scheme that issued your card.**



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Bircham Newton  
King's Lynn  
Norfolk  
PE31 6XD  
Tel: 0344 994 4777  
Email: [customerservice@cscs.co.uk](mailto:customerservice@cscs.co.uk)  
[www.cscs.co.uk](http://www.cscs.co.uk)



CSCS is owned and managed by  
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The Scheme's application processing and contact  
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This publication is for guidance only.  
All information correct at time of publication.