


# How to apply for CSCS Card



**Almost all jobs on the construction site require the valid CSCS card. The Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) is the recognised scheme confirming building skills and the experience. CSCS card provides proof that workers on construction sites have the necessary training and qualifications to carry out their work.**

This card confirms the identity of the worker, qualifications and training plus the knowledge of health and safety requirements for a particular occupation in the construction industry.

It is possible to apply for a card directly or through the employer, but there are also organisations which offer application services. There is £30.00 fee for a card and £19.50 for the test. Some organisations can charge additional fees for the help with the card application. The easiest way to apply for a CSCS card is to call the CSCS contact centre on 0344 994 4777.

Individuals can apply for a card using [cscs.uk.com](http://cscs.uk.com) website. Also, employers can apply for CSCS cards for workers by filling an application online. First of all, it is important to check which card is required and ensure that the CITB Health, safety and environment test was passed in last two years. CITB HSE test can be booked during the application. Moreover, there are certain requirements which vary depending on the card type (colour).

#### **CSCS Labourer Card (Green)**

It is designated for any labouring occupation to confirm that worker has received the minimum standard of qualification. It is valid for five years and to apply it is required to pass the following: QCF/SCQF Level 1 Award Health and Safety in a Construction Environment or One-day Site Safety Plus Health and Safety Awareness course or IOSH Working Safely course or a recognised equivalent. The second condition is to provide the proof of passed CITB Operatives Health, Safety and Environment Test within two years. The local training providers or colleges are offering the various courses recognised by CSCS.

All these tests prove that labourer has a good knowledge of the most common risks to safety on construction sites and within the following areas: assessing risk, manual handling, working at height, work around plant and equipment and risk to health. If the labourer is required to supervise the construction site he should hold the CSCS Supervisory or Advanced Craft Card. Alternatively, the red CSCS Experienced Technical Supervisory or Manager card can be considered.

## CSCS Basic Skills (Green)

It is available for those who achieved the NVQ level 1 qualifications or completed the construction related award, certification or diploma recognised by CSCS. The CITB HSE test (Specialist or Operative) is obligatory.



## CSCS Craft skilled (Gold)

It is designed for highly skilled workers, and it confirms workers experience and qualification. To apply it is required to pass the following: Achieve level 3 NVQ/SVQ certification. Complete the apprenticeship with the recognised body BATIJC or NJCBI or other. Complete the employer-sponsored apprenticeship with achievement of City & Guilds Craft Qualification.



## CSCS Supervisory (Gold)

If the labourer is required to supervise the construction site he should hold the CSCS Supervisory, which is valid for five years. To apply applicants have to pass the Supervisors CITB Health, Safety and Environment Test. Card is issued if there is

proof of passed Construction Related Supervisory NVQ or SVQ level 4, holding a pre-existing Construction Related Supervisory NVQ level 3.



## CSCS Trainee (Red)

From 1st August in place of CSCS Trainee (Craft & Operative) and CSCS Trainee (Experienced Technical, Supervisory or Management) there is only one Red CSCS Trainee card available. To apply it is required to pass the appropriate CITB HSE test plus register for appropriate qualification.



## CSCS Experienced Technical, Supervisor or Manager (Red)

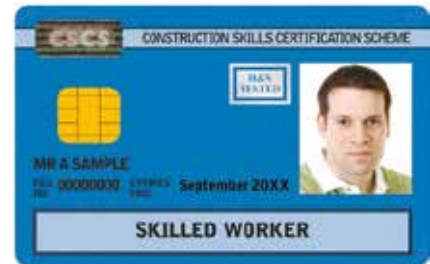
It is available for applicants who are on the job experience and not yet achieved a construction related NVQ or SVQ and are not a member of an approved professional body. It is issued as a temporary card which is valid three years and cannot be reissued. It is used while on training to get the qualifications. To apply all applicants must be registered for the relevant Construction related NVQ or SVQ and have passed the CITB Health, Safety and Environment Test within the past two years.



## CSCS Skilled Worker (Blue)

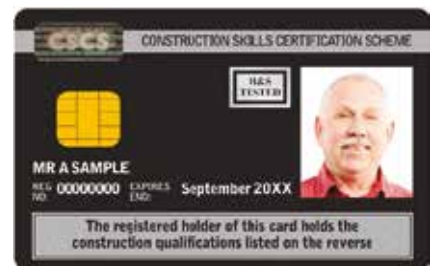
It is available for workers who have completed the employer-sponsored apprenticeship, which included the achievement of City & Guilds of London Institute Craft Certificate. Alternatively, the following qualification might be accepted:

- Attained SVQ or NVQ level 2
- A City & Guilds Craft Certificate
- A NARIC report and certificate
- CITB HSE test



## CSCS Manager (Black)

It is the most advanced card available, designated for managers. To apply there is a need to prove the achievement of the management NVQ level 4 and achieve NVQ/SVQ level 5,6,7 in the construction management qualifications. Applicants have to pass the Manager and Professionals CITB Health, Safety and Environment Test. Go to CSCS website for the description of all cards including also: Apprentice, CSCS AQP, PQP, CRO or Provisional and Site Visitor, etc.



## Qualification from another country

In the case where the construction worker has the qualification from another country, there is the possibility to appeal to UK NARIC to have them recognised for application of a CSCS card. UK NARIC is the designated by the UK Government national agency for the recognition and comparison of international qualifications and skills.

(Source: [cscs.com.uk](http://cscs.com.uk))



UK NARIC can review any construction related qualification that was awarded outside the UK and which is not recognised by CSCS. UK NARIC can determine if that qualification can be compared to an NVQ, SVQ or other qualification appropriate to the occupation and the CSCS card.

In the case when UK NARIC confirms that the qualification is an acceptable alternative to a UK awarded qualification the following should be sent to [customerservice@cscs.gb.com](mailto:customerservice@cscs.gb.com):

- UK NARIC certificate and letter
- Copy of the original qualification
- Fully completed CSCS card application form

CSCS will review the application and if all documents are correct will send the card to the address provided.

### How to renew the CSCS card?

There are certain options when renewing the CSCS card, depending on the card's type:

Temporary CSCS red card is non-renewable if expired. It is necessary to pass recognised qualifications before it expires. Renewing CSCS cards with qualification is similar to applying for a new one, and there is a need to retake a CITB HSE test again.

Renewing CSCS cards without qualification is possible for blue, gold or black cards only by retaking the appropriate Health and Safety Test within six months from card expiry date.

*(Source: [cscs.com.uk](http://cscs.com.uk))*