

BACK TO CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

The Scottish construction sector needs to recruit 17.950 extra workers by 2029 to maintain output, and employers across the supply chain are keen to support young people to choose a career in construction. However, the routes of entry into the industry can be complex and confusing.

Not all occupations have an apprenticeship and not every business is ready to take on an apprentice, but there are many other ways to reach out to the next generation.

Every employer can play their part by supporting a school-based programme or providing a work placement, sponsorship or employment to those still in education or looking to secure their first job.

Employers that understand the different routes of entry into construction are well placed to offer opportunities and recruit their future pipeline of skills.

This guide sets out the most common Routes of Entry into construction for young people in Scotland attending or leaving school and how they might suit different employers.















SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (SCQF)

The <u>Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)</u> is Scotland's national qualifications framework and provides a way of identifying and comparing a wide range of qualifications and learning programmes.

In addition to mainstream qualifications which many employers will be aware of - Nationals, Highers, SVQs and Degrees - the SCQF also recognises apprenticeships and other qualifications, such as Skills for Work and National Progression Awards, as well as those created by private organisations and employers. SCQF 'Levels' help to identify the difficulty of the qualification, while 'Credit Points' indicate the amount of learning involved (i.e. how long it would take on average for a learner to complete).

SCQF helps people of all ages and circumstances to access the education and training that is appropriate for them over their lifetime. It enables young people to plan their learning and develop progression routes to follow, whatever their situation may be.















APPRENTICESHIP - FOUNDATION

Great for employers that:

- ✓ are based near a school or college delivering Foundation Apprenticeships
- ✓ can offer approximately a week's work placement
- ✓ employ apprentices
- ✓ are keen to engage with education

<u>Foundation Apprenticeships</u> are available at SCQF Levels 4 to 6 and delivered as part of the school curriculum in either school or college over one or two years for students in Year S3 and above.

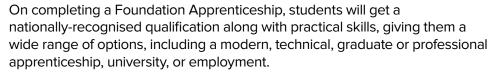
Aimed at preparing students for further training or employment, programmes at Levels 4 and 5 provide an introduction to the industry and include project-based learning within the school or college led by employers. Level 6 programmes include a short work placement alongside practical and theory aspects.

There are two construction-related Foundation Apprenticeships:

- Construction (SCQF Level 4 & 5)
- Civil Engineering (SCQF Level 6)

Suitable for young people who:

- are in school and want to gain vocational qualifications
- ✓ are practically-minded
- ✓ want to get work experience
- ✓ have an interest in construction and want to try it out



There are no salary or direct training cost requirements for employers but they are asked to provide in-kind support for the delivery of Foundation Apprenticeships, for example project-based learning, and contribute towards travel and other expenses for students on work placements.

For Foundation Apprenticeship students, a CSCS card is neither available nor required.

- Read the Scottish Government's <u>Employer Welcome Pack for Foundation Apprenticeships</u>
- Contact <u>Apprenticeships Scotland</u> for support with offering Foundation Apprenticeships
- ✓ Partner with a local school or college
- Post your Foundation Apprenticeship work placement opportunities on <u>Talentview</u>











APPRENTICESHIP - MODERN, TECHNICAL, GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL



Great for employers that:

- ✓ are in a sector with apprenticeships
- ✓ want to train new entrants in specific trade, manager or professional roles
- ✓ can offer employment for the duration of an apprenticeship



A Modern, Technical, Graduate or Professional Apprenticeship is paid employment with a structured programme of learning for those aged 16 and over. The different levels of apprenticeships can be found by and existing education and qualifications will usually determine the appropriate level for a young person.

An apprenticeship can last between six months and four years. Apprentices generally spend the majority of their time in the workplace and the rest in formal training with a training provider.

There are currently the following construction-related apprenticeships:

- Modern Apprenticeships (SCQF Levels 6 & 7)
- Technical Apprenticeships in Construction (SCQF Level 9)
- Graduate Apprenticeships (SCQF Level 10) in Construction and the **Built Environment and Civil Engineering**
- Professional Apprenticeships in Construction at SCQF Level 10 and Level 11.

Not all construction occupations have an apprenticeship; however, some specialist trades have Specialist Applied-Skills Programmes which are considered 'sector apprenticeships'.

Suitable for young people who:

- ✓ want to get a job and start earning
- ✓ are practically-minded
- ✓ are interested in gaining vocational qualifications
- ✓ have a local employer offering apprenticeships
- ✓ know the construction occupation they want to work in

There are no minimum requirements for English and maths; however, relevant qualifications at SCQF Level 5 show a base level of skills has been achieved. Each Modern Apprenticeship framework will include 'core skills', whilst Technical and Professional Apprenticeships will include 'career skills'. Apprentices are paid a salary:

- Those aged between 16 and 18, or 19 and over and in the first year of an apprenticeship are entitled to the apprentice rate
- Those aged 19 and over who have completed the first year of the apprenticeship are entitled to the National Minimum Wage.

After completing an apprenticeship, the young person should be ready for employment or can progress to a higher-level apprenticeship or university.

Funding is available to employers via the Scottish Government and CITB grants (if in-scope).

For apprentices, the relevant CSCS card is the Apprentice Card which is free of charge.

- ✓ Contact your trade association or refer to the Apprenticeships Scotland website to confirm there is an apprenticeship framework and suitable training provision in place
- ✓ Partner with a local college, university or training provider
- ✓ Advertise your apprenticeship opportunities to local colleges and on Talentview and the Apprenticeships Scotland website









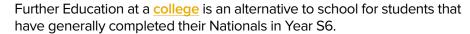


BACK TO CONTENTS

COLLEGE

Great for employers that:

- are based near a college delivering construction qualifications
- ✓ are keen to engage with education
- ✓ offer work experience
- ✓ employ apprentices



Learning takes place in both a classroom and a more practical environment and there may be a requirement for a work placement with an employer.

Some courses will have an entry requirement which is likely to include English and maths Nationals at SCQF Level 5. Students that have not achieved these qualifications will usually be expected to undertake additional learning at college and obtain a minimum standard of 'core skills'.

There is an extensive range of construction-related qualifications available, examples of which can be found by ______, and students will leave with a variety of options from an apprenticeship or university to employment.

Suitable for young people who:

- ✓ want to stay in education
- ✓ are practically-minded
- ✓ are interested in gaining technical qualifications
- ✓ are keen to get ready for work
- ✓ want to work in construction



Qualifications that are college-based with no on-site experience are Occupation-Related Non-Competence Qualifications, and on entering employment an individual's first role in construction should provide further training and/or work experience as required. Qualifications that include on-site experience are Occupational Competence Qualifications and require a student to demonstrate competence in the workplace.

For students on a work placement lasting 30 days or more, the relevant CSCS card is the Industry Placement Card. For students in employment and registered for a recognised construction-related Occupational Competence Qualification or an academic qualification, the relevant CSCS card is the Trainee Card. For students registered for an Occupation-Related Non-Competence Qualification, a CSCS card is **not** required as they will not be on site.

- ✓ Partner with a local college
- ✓ Sponsor a student
- ✓ Advertise apprenticeship opportunities to local colleges and on <u>Talentview</u> and the <u>Apprenticeships Scotland website</u>













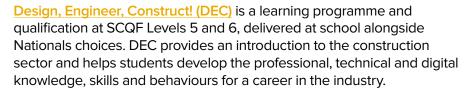




DESIGN, ENGINEER, CONSTRUCT!

Great for employers that:

- ✓ are based near a school or college delivering DEC or that are open to doing so
- employ apprentices in technical and professional roles
- ✓ are keen to engage with education



There are two DEC The Digital Built Environment programmes available:

- Foundation Certificate (SCQF Level 5)
- Intermediate Certificate (SCQF Level 6).

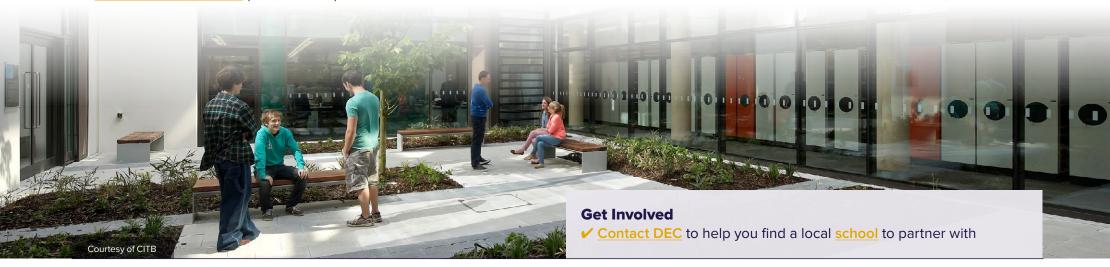
Suitable for young people who:

- are in education and want to gain vocational qualifications
- ✓ are technically-minded
- ✓ are considering working in construction



There are no salary or direct training cost requirements for employers but they are encouraged to 'Adopt a School' to help support the running of a DEC programme, including the development of learning activities and provision of materials.

For DEC students, a CSCS card is neither available nor required.













BACK TO CONTENTS

EMPLOYMENT

Great for employers that:

- ✓ want to assess the suitability of a young person before offering formal training
- ✓ want to train new entrants in specific trade. manager or professional job roles
- ✓ can provide suitable supervision



Until they are 16 years old, a young person must stay in full-time education.

A young person in their first construction job, and not on a formal training programme, is likely to start as a labourer. As well as giving young people experience of working in the industry to see if it suits them, this enables employers to identify potential apprentices and trainees.

Within six months, a suitable occupation is usually identified which will determine the qualifications and training required.

It is essential that an induction, health, safety and other essential training, suitable supervision and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are provided.

Suitable for young people who:

- ✓ are practically-minded
- ✓ have little or no work experience but are motivated to work
- ✓ want to get a job and start earning
- ✓ have an interest in construction and want to try it out



For young people in their first construction job and not registered for any qualifications, the relevant CSCS card is the Provisional Card. For those registered for a construction-related Occupational Competence Qualification, the relevant CSCS card is the Trainee Card. For young people that continue to undertake labourer tasks, the appropriate qualification should be obtained and the relevant CSCS card is the Labourer Card.

- ✓ Advertise job vacancies on Talentview
- ✓ Contact your trade association to understand the formal training and entry routes in your sector











BACK TO CONTENTS

PRE-APPRENTICESHIP

Great for employers that:

- ✓ are based near a college delivering Pre-apprenticeships
- ✓ employ apprentices
- ✓ are keen to engage with education



A Pre-apprenticeship is a learning programme designed to give young people relevant knowledge and experience of construction which is usually completed in 6 to 12 months.

Providing an introduction to construction, it may focus on a single trade or cover multiple trades and gives young people the basic knowledge and skills to prepare them for undertaking an apprenticeship and working in the industry.

Pre-apprenticeship programmes are designed flexibly in collaboration with employers and colleges, and there are no prescribed frameworks or learning outcomes.

Suitable for young people who:

- are in education and want to gain vocational qualifications
- ✓ are practically-minded
- ✓ are considering working in construction



Pre-apprenticeships can include formal qualifications to provide a quality-assured and SCQF levelled qualification outcome, such as construction-related Skills for Work courses at SCQF Levels 3 and 4, and National Progression Awards (NPAs) at SCQF Levels 5 and 6 (see College for more details on Skills for Work and NPAs in construction).

There are no salary or direct training cost requirements for employers but they are asked to provide in-kind support, including programme design, materials and project work.

For Pre-apprenticeship students, a CSCS card is neither available nor required.



Get Involved

✓ Partner with a local <u>college</u> to deliver Pre-apprenticeships









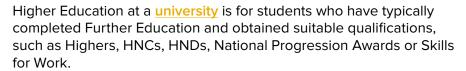


BACK TO CONTENTS

UNIVERSITY

Great for employers that:

- ✓ employ construction professionals
- ✓ want to train new entrants in specific professional or managerial roles
- ✓ offer work experience or work placements
- ✓ can offer sponsorship



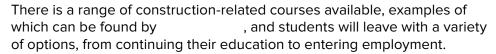
With the exception of Graduate Apprenticeships, courses are usually full-time with learning taking place in a classroom, although there may be an option or requirement for a work placement with an employer.

Some construction employers sponsor university students, which may include financial support, work placements and employment at the end of the course.

Each university will determine its entry requirements, which may include particular Higher grades and other qualifications at SCQF Level 6 and above.

Suitable for young people who:

- ✓ have completed Further Education
- ✓ want to stay in education
- ✓ want a university experience
- ✓ want to work in construction
- ✓ have an interest in construction and want to try it out



If entering employment, their first role in construction is likely to be a graduate or trainee role which will provide further training and/or work experience as required.

For students who require access to site as part of a construction-related Higher Education course, the relevant CSCS card is the <u>Trainee Card</u>. For students on a Graduate Apprenticeship, the relevant CSCS card is the <u>Apprentice Card</u> which is free of charge.

- ✓ Identify which <u>university courses</u> suit your business
- ✓ Partner with a <u>university</u>
- ✓ Offer work experience or work placements
- ✓ Offer sponsorship opportunities
- Advertise your graduate opportunities to local universities and on <u>Talentview</u>













CSCS CARDS FOR NEW ENTRANTS

Card	Who	Qualification	Valid	Renewable
Apprentice Card	Modern, Technical, Graduate or Professional Apprentices	Registered on a construction-related apprenticeship	4.5 years	No
Industry Placement Card	Students aged 16 and over	Registered on a Further Education construction-related qualification or training programme which requires a work placement of 30 days or more	3 years	No
<u>Labourer</u> <u>Card</u>	Labourers	 RQF Level 1/SCQF Level 4 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (this is a lifetime qualification) SCQF Level 5 REHIS Elementary Health and Safety Certificate NOCN/CSkills Awards Construction Health and Safety (F/618/0738) unit A CSCS approved alternative qualification (which needs to be renewed for each new card) 	2 years	Yes – can be renewed for a further 5 years if continuing in a labouring role
Provisional Card	Not registered on a qualification or training programme	None	6 months	No
<u>Trainee</u> <u>Card</u>	Students and trainees	Registered for a recognised construction-related Occupational Competence Qualification academic qualification	5 years	No
		Achievement of an approved SCQF Level 5 (or higher) construction Occupation-Related Non-Competence Qualification	2 years	Yes – can be renewed for a further 3 years upon evidence of registration onto a recognised construction-related Occupational Competence Qualification or academic qualification

This guide references cards issued by CSCS Cards Limited, which is one of the card schemes that make up the CSCS Alliance. New entrants may need a card from an alternative CSCS Alliance card scheme depending on the occupation.

To apply for a CSCS card, the applicant is required to pass the appropriate level of the CITB Health, Safety & Environment Test within the last two years or an approved alternative.









