Training Standard

BUILDUK
Leading the Construction Industry

Background

The Construction Leadership Council (CLC) agreed that from January 2015 the industry, including trade associations, contractors, clients, and government should specify and promote card schemes carrying the CSCS logo with no equivalents accepted.

Build UK supports the CLC decision and its members have agreed to consistently implement its recommendations, last updated in November 2026, which are set out in this standard.

For further information visit How to be a Smart Site and CSCS Frequently Asked Questions

Requirements of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015

It is a requirement under the *Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015)* for contractors to ensure any individual they employ or appoint to work on a construction site has the skills, knowledge, training and experience to carry out the work they will be employed to do in a way that secures the health and safety of themselves and others. This should be assessed and managed appropriately to ensure that individuals are undertaking the appropriate occupation at the appropriate level i.e. trainee, skilled, supervisory, managerial.

While the HSE guidance on implementing CDM 2015 states that, *"Sole reliance should not be placed on industry certification cards or similar being presented to them [contractors] as evidence that a worker has the right qualities"*, the guidance makes clear that *"Nationally recognised qualifications (such as National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) and Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs)) can provide contractors with assurance that the holder has the skills, knowledge, training and experience to carry out the task(s) for which they are appointed"*.

Application

The CLC decision and card schemes carrying the CSCS logo both relate to construction occupations only, however cards may also be issued to those undertaking recognised construction occupations in other sectors or working environments. It is recognised that due to the diverse nature of construction projects, there are occasions where a person may need to access site to perform a non-construction occupation or activity e.g. delivery of materials to site, catering staff, security guards, visitors etc. and it is not expected that these individuals will carry a CSCS card as cards will not be issued for these occupations. They may however still need to provide evidence that they can carry out their task safely. They may also require a separate risk assessment and additional supervision.

Supplementary Training

In addition to a card carrying the CSCS logo individuals may need to have undertaken supplementary training to operate specific machinery, plant, or tools or to carry out certain activities. E.g. a steelwork erector would hold a steel erector card issued by CSCS and if required to use a MEWP would also hold an IPAF or other relevant card to cover this training.

Queries regarding suitable supplementary training should be directed to the Principal Contractor or relevant trade association.

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Health and Safety Training Requirements

In addition to recognising card schemes carrying the CSCS logo and the supplementary training to operate specific machinery, plant, or tools, Build UK Contractor Members require additional health and safety training, as specified below, to be undertaken by their directors and those working on their sites including sub-contractors. The awarding body would usually define the renewal period for health and safety training, but this should not exceed every five years.

This list is currently being reviewed

Job Role	Accepted Health & Safety Training
Director	Any course which is equivalent to: Health and Safety in Construction (Director) The following courses will be accepted: ❖ Site Safety Plus Directors Role for Health and Safety ❖ IOSH Safety for Executives and Directors ❖ IOSH Leading Safely
Manager	Any course which is equivalent to: Health and Safety in Construction (Site Management) The following courses will be accepted: ❖ Site Safety Plus Site Management Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) ❖ IOSH Managing Safely in Construction ❖ 5 day CISRS Managers course ❖ 5 day CCDO Demolition Manager course and end test ❖ 5 day NPORS Construction Site Safety Manager ❖
Supervisor	Any course which is equivalent to: Health and Safety in Construction (Site Supervision) The following courses will be accepted: ❖ Site Safety Plus Site Supervisors Training Scheme (SSSTS) ❖ FPS Piling Specialists Supervisor Training ❖ CSR Site Safety for Supervisors ❖ 2 day CCDO Demolition Chargehand course and end test ❖ 5 day CCDO Demolition Supervisor course and end test ❖ 5 day CISRS Supervisors course. ❖ 3 day Equipe Site Supervision of Geotechnical Sites ❖ 2 day NPORS Site Supervisors Safety Course ❖

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Persons attending site to undertake construction activities and who do not fall into any of the above categories	Any course which is equivalent to: Health and Safety in a Construction Environment Standard Industry courses which have been mapped as equivalent to the above are: ❖ Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment ❖ BESA Site Operative Safety Course ❖ CCNSG Health and Safety Passport ❖ 1 day CISRS Operative Training Scheme (COTS) ❖ Drilling & Sawing Association, Health and Safety for Drilling and Sawing Operatives ❖ ECA Operative and New Entrant Health & Safety Awareness ❖ Safety Pass Alliance (SPA) Core Construction Course ❖ IOSH Working Safely - via face to face assessment ONLY ❖ IOSH Safety, Health & Environment for Construction Site Workers ❖ Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness course ❖ Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness Fencing course ❖ NOCN Health and Safety Awareness in Construction ❖ NPORS Site Safety Awareness course ❖ Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS) Elementary Health and Safety Course ❖ Site Safety Plus Health and Safety Awareness Course.
Apprentices	Apprentices who are on industry recognised training programmes are excluded from this requirement if they hold the relevant card carrying the CSCS logo.
	Operatives who have completed an S/NVQ Level 2 or 3 or Trailblazer Standard within the last five years and hold the relevant CSCS logo card, will be exempt from this requirement. *Operatives whose qualification was achieved more than five years ago will be required to demonstrate that they have achieved one of the courses listed above.*

Build UK is not responsible for mapping training courses to the industry-agreed standards. To make sure your course is included within the Build UK Training Standard, your organisation will need to submit details of your course(s) and quality assurance arrangements to CITB to assess against the relevant standard. To begin the mapping process please make initial contact with CITB via quality.assurance@citb.co.uk.

November 2026

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