

RED CARD TRAINEE

There are two types of red cards which are both for new entrants to occupations in the construction industry.

Trainee Cards (Craft And Operative)

You will qualify for this card if you are a trainee, and registered for an NVQ or SVQ (or Construction Award) but have not yet achieved level 2 or 3.

Trainee Card (Technical, Supervisory And Management)

You will qualify for this card if you can provide evidence of current registration with a further/higher education college for a nationally recognised construction related qualification. Or you can qualify if you can provide evidence of satisfactorily completing a nationally recognised construction related course in a further/higher education college.

Trainees have the choice between the standard CSCS health and safety course or the health and safety test. The cards are valid for three years. However the Trainee (Technical, Supervisory and Management) card can be renewed for a further three years on application.

GREEN CARD

The green card is available to operatives who carry out basic site skills only and on the reverse shows the occupation the individual is involved in.

There are two ways to apply for a green card: via NVQ level 1; or by employer's recommendation (industry accreditation), which is only open for a limited period of time. The employer must use the industry accreditation competencies, click [here](#) for a list, when assessing the applicant.

BLUE CARD - EXPERIENCED WORKER

This card is available to everyone with on the job experience (normally at least one year in the last three), but missed the industry accreditation opportunity.

To qualify for a card you need to:

- check to see if your trade is covered by CSCS
- pass the health and safety test

This card is valid for one year and is non-renewable. The card is issued on a temporary basis, while a NVQ or SVQ is being achieved. It is expected to be replaced by a skilled five year card on achievement of NVQ or SVQ Level 2 or higher.

An Experienced Worker Card cannot be replaced by a Construction Site Operative or a Basic Skills Green Card.

BLUE CARD - SKILLED WORKER

You may qualify for a blue skilled card if you have achieved an NVQ or SVQ level 2 or if you have completed an employer sponsored apprenticeship and completed a City and Guilds of London Institute Craft Certificate.

If you do not have these qualifications, you may apply for a skilled card if you are experienced in your job (see [Experienced Worker Card](#) for more information).

BLUE CARD – EXPERIENCED MANAGER

This card is available to everyone with on the job experience (normally one year in the last three). If you have an NVQ or SVQ level 3, 4 or 5, or are a member of certain professional institutions please click [here](#).

If you do not have these qualifications, you may apply for a skilled card if you are experienced in your job and your occupation is available through industry accreditation. Industry accreditation is open for a limited time only.

To qualify for a card you need to:

- check to see if your trade is covered by CSCS
- pass the health and safety test
- register for an NVQ or SVQ
- complete an NVQ or SVQ profiling session

This card is valid for three years and non-renewable.

The card is issued on a temporary basis, while an NVQ or SVQ is being achieved. It is expected to be replaced by a skilled five year card on achievement of NVQ or SVQ Level 3 or higher.

GOLD CARD – SKILLED WORKER

You may qualify for a gold skilled card if you have achieved an NVQ or SVQ level 3, or if you have completed an approved indentured apprenticeship (e.g. with NJCBI, BATJIC etc) or an employer sponsored apprenticeship and completed a City and Guilds of London Institute Advanced Craft Certificate.

If you do not have these qualifications, you may still have a skilled card if you are experienced in your job see [Experienced Worker Card](#) for more information.

GOLD CARD – SUPERVISOR

You may qualify for a gold supervisor card if you are involved in supervisor occupations.

Cards can be applied for through industry accreditation, for three years from release date, or by achievement of an NVQ or SVQ level 3 in a supervisory occupation.

Some of these occupations may be covered by the Professional Membership Mapped Route.

For those who apply after industry accreditation has closed, entry will be by NVQ or SVQ level 3 or by applying for an [Experienced Manager Card](#).

PLATINUM CARD – MANAGER

The platinum card is available for manager occupations.

You may apply for a card through industry accreditation, for three years from release date, or by achievement of an NVQ or SVQ level 4 in one of the occupations above.

Some of the occupations may be covered by the Professional Membership Mapped Route.

For those who apply after industry accreditation has closed, entry will be by NVQ or SVQ level 4 or by applying for an [Experienced Manager Card](#).

All applicants must pass the manager level construction health and safety test.

BLACK CARD – SENIOR MANAGER

The black card is available for senior manager occupations.

Achievement of an NVQ or SVQ level 5 in a relevant occupation is required to apply for this CSCS card.

For those who do not have an NVQ or SVQ level 5 application is by the [Experienced Manager Card](#).

All applicants must pass the PQP health and safety test.

YELLOW CARD - PROFESSIONAL QUALIFIED PERSON

The yellow PQP card is for non-site based professionals who have health and safety responsibilities such as Consultants, Client Architects, Surveyors and Engineers, but are not resident on site (CSCS defines residency as normally spending no more than 30 days on site in any six month period).

In order to apply for a card the applicant must:

- be a competence assessed member of an approved institution (click here for list)
- pass the PQP Health and Safety test
- have up to date continuing professional development records for the last two years relevant to the area of work in which they are in
- complete the application form – click [here](#)

Cards are valid for five years and are renewal on re-verification of the PQP criteria.

WHITE CARD – CONSTRUCTION RELATED OCCUPATION (CRO)

This card covers construction related occupations not covered by the other categories of card and shows the holder's occupation.

A CRO card is valid for five years and to renew it applicants must retake and pass the health and safety test.

YELLOW CARD – REGULAR VISITOR

The yellow Regular Visitor Card is for people who frequently visit a construction site, but have no construction specific skill.

The card is issued on a personal basis via application form, the applicant will need to take and pass the CSCS Operative Health and Safety test.

The card has been designed to allow access to a Construction Site to be made easier, as the health and safety test status can reduce the amount of site induction that is required.

Important Notes: Although the health and safety tested status can reduce the amount of site health and safety induction required, some site specific health and safety induction may also be required. The issue of this card does not relieve the site managers from their legal obligations to ensure the health, safety and welfare of people entering their sites.