

A quick guide to CSCS for the Built Heritage Sector

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or visit **www.cscs.uk.com** on all internal pages.



your
questions
answered

CSCS

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CSCS

what is it?

Established in 1995, the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) is the competence card scheme for construction, which has been developed to meet the changing needs of the industry. Over 1.5 million people now hold CSCS cards.



when do you need it? NOW

Increasingly, anyone undertaking conservation, repair, maintenance or restoration on historic sites is required by clients or contractors to show their CSCS card and that it's appropriate for the job they do. English Heritage and Cadw already recognise CSCS as a means of proving competence. It is expected that other heritage bodies and organisations with responsibility for historic buildings will follow this approach soon.

So without a relevant CSCS card access to construction sites may be denied.

why?

The Scheme's objectives are to improve skill levels and competency across the industry in order to reduce accidents, ill health and fatalities and to improve productivity.

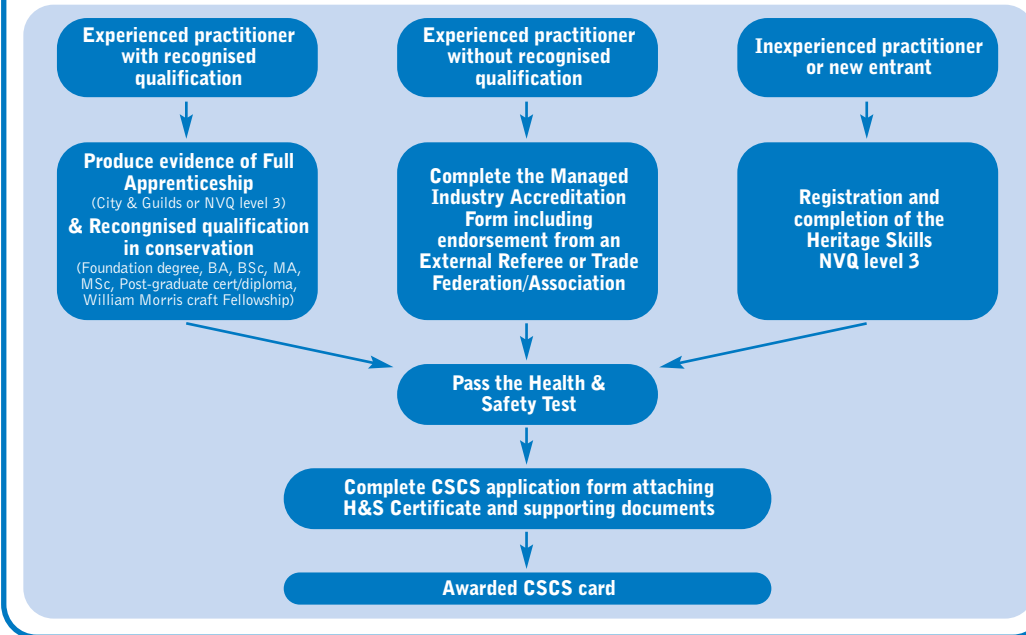
A CSCS card shows employers that an individual is competent to do their job.

For employers, having a CSCS carded workforce shows current and future clients that your company will provide a high quality service and this can be the difference between you and your competitor winning a contract.

For clients, it provides a simple way to check that everyone working on your sites possesses the appropriate skills and health & safety awareness to carry out their work competently and safely.

which route?

The diagram below shows the requirements of the three routes to apply for a CSCS Heritage Skills Card.



which card?

There are 8 types of CSCS cards and 10 affiliated or amalgamated Schemes collectively covering hundreds of occupations so there is one for most roles in the construction industry.

CSCS cards list the holder's qualifications and are valid for one, three or five years. They are based on National Occupational Standards (NOS) which are developed by the sector in partnership with its Sector Skills Council and you must pass the ConstructionSkills Health and Safety Test to apply for a CSCS card.

Within the Built Heritage Sector, the most appropriate CSCS cards are the following:

Heritage Skills Card

The CSCS Heritage Skills Card has been available since September 2008 and covers specific craft occupation in this sector. It is available as a Gold Advanced craft, which requires the applicant to pass the Operative Health and Safety Test.



To reflect the wider use of heritage skills applying to all pre-1919 buildings, not only those higher status buildings requiring conservation expertise or listed or protected by legislation, craft operatives working in this sector may apply for the CSCS Heritage Skills card, which shows their specific craft discipline, e.g. Heritage Skills - Brickwork.

Applications for this card may be made via three routes:

1. Managed Industry Accreditation: Practitioners supply evidence of their relevant work experience supported by endorsement from an external referee or approved trade federation and their employer's or approved trade federation (e.g. NFRC) confirmation that they continue to carry out this kind of work to a high standard. It is envisaged that this route will be available until the end of September 2010. An application form for this route may be downloaded at www.cscs.uk.com/heritagemia
2. Approved Apprenticeship and Conservation Qualification: Demonstrating achievement of a recognised craft qualification and a recognised conservation qualification.
3. Heritage Skills NVQ: Achievement of the Heritage Skills NVQ Level 3.

Craft occupations covered by this card are bricklaying; carpentry and joinery; craft masonry; earth walling; painting and decorating; plastering (solid & fibrous); roof slating and tiling; specialist leadworker; stonemasonry; stone carving; thatching wall and floor tiling. For a list of the competencies for this occupation visit www.cscs.uk.com/occupations and application forms can be downloaded at: www.cscs.uk.com/application

Professionally Qualified Persons (PQP) Card

This card is for professionals such as architects, engineers and surveyors who attend site but are not site-based. The conservation or heritage specific cards are:



| Job Role | Type of CSCS Card | Health & Safety Test |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Building Site Manager (Conservation) | Black | Managerial and Professional |
| Conservation Consultant | Black | Managerial and Professional |
| Conservation Controller | Black | Managerial and Professional |
| Construction Site Manager (Conservation) | Black | Managerial and Professional |

All the above cards are valid for five years and renewable upon application, providing the **CSCS health and safety requirements are met.**

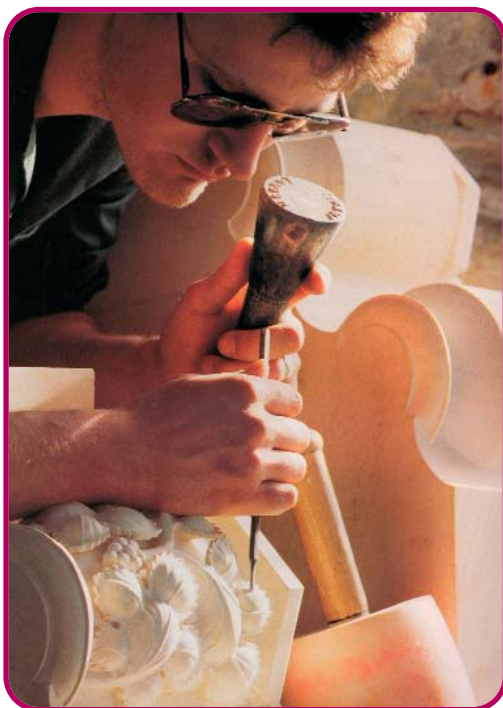
For a list of the competencies that must be demonstrated to apply for the above cards please visit the CSCS website www.cscs.uk.com/occupations.

Application forms can be downloaded at: www.cscs.uk.com/application.

Please note that craft operatives working on pre-1919 buildings in Northern Ireland wishing to apply for CSCS cards should contact CSR by visiting www.constructionskillsregister.co.uk or calling **028 908 77150**.

To find out more about training and skills development in the built heritage sector call the NHTG on the dedicated helpline **0300 456 5517**, e-mail at: info@nhtg.org.uk or visit www.nhtg.org.uk

For further details on the Heritage Skills NVQ Level 3 obtained through the ConstructionSkills' Onsite Assessment and Training Scheme (OSAT), or to locate your nearest assessment centre for this qualification visit: www.caalliance.co.uk



how?

To obtain a CSCS card in the built heritage sector call **0844 248 5262** or organise it yourself and download an application form from **www.cscs.uk.com/application**

You will be asked about your job, whether you have any formal qualifications and if you belong to a relevant professional body. You will need to provide your name and address, date of birth and National Insurance number. Your Health and Safety test will be booked and you will be told what documentation you need to take with you to the test. You will also need to provide details of your credit or debit card to pay for the card and the test.

In addition if you are applying for the CSCS card via the Managed Industry Accreditation (MIA) route you will need to complete the MIA application form. The form is downloadable from the CSCS website www.cscs.uk.com/heritagemia. Once completed it should be sent with all other required documentation to CSCS, PO Box 114, Bircham Newton, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE31 6XD.

how much?

The total cost is **£47.50 - £17.50** for the test and **£30.00** for the card.

what if?

If you move house or change occupations you should let us know by calling **0844 576 8777**.

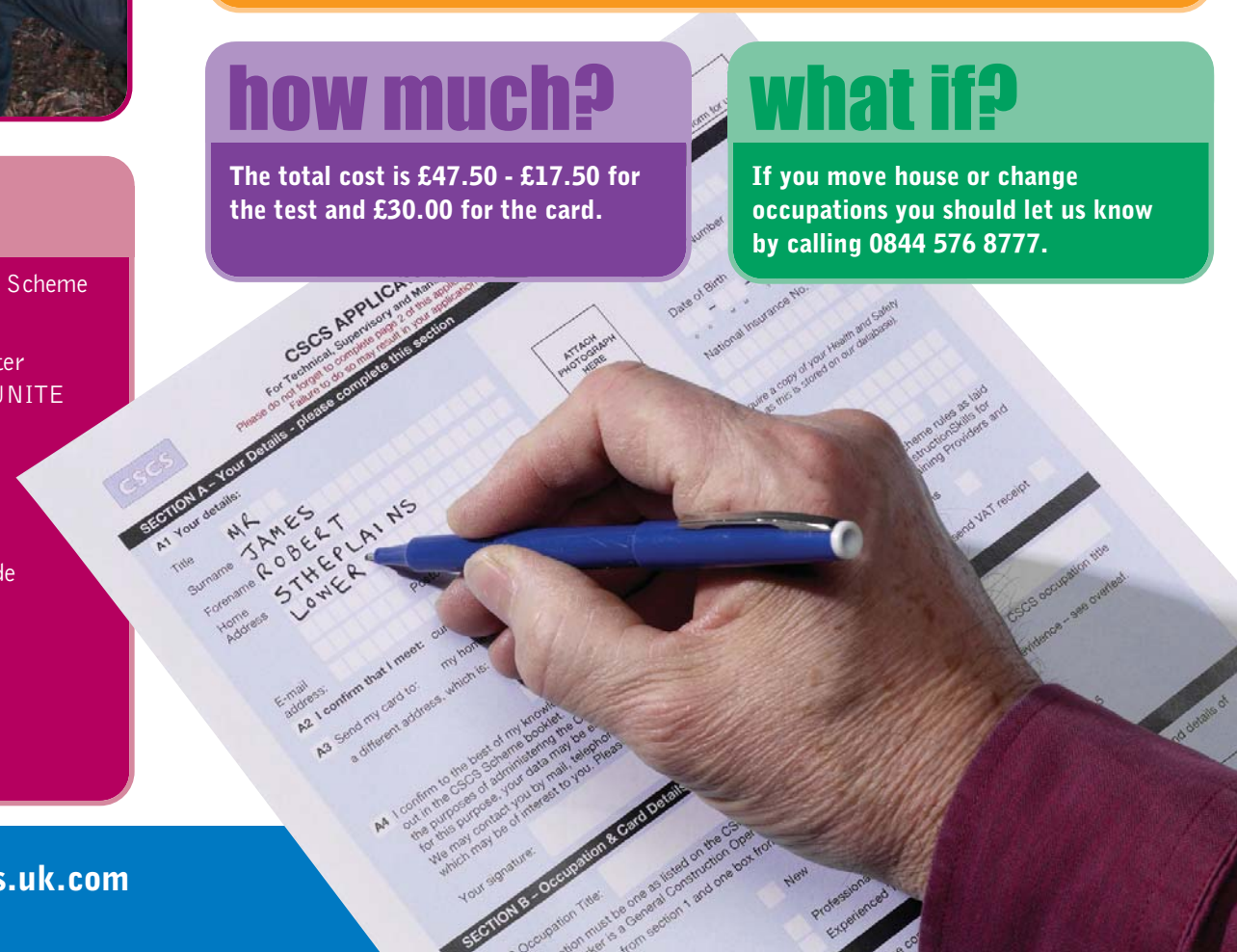
who manages it?

A board comprising representatives from across the industry manages CSCS. The Scheme is administered under contract by ConstructionSkills.

The owners of the scheme are the Construction Confederation, Federation of Master Builders, GMB Union, National Specialist Contractors Council, T&G Section of UNITE (Building Crafts Section), Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians.

The Heritage Skills Card has been developed jointly by CSCS, ConstructionSkills and the National Heritage Training Group (NHTG), an independent specialist training group - comprised of heritage bodies, contractors, Trade Federations and Associations, Trade Unions and FE and private training providers - with a UK-wide remit for training and skills development in the built heritage sector.

- **Construction Confederation**
www.thecc.org.uk
- **Federation of Master Builders**
www.fmb.org.uk
- **GMB Union**
www.gmb.org.uk
- **National Specialist Contractors Council**
www.nsc.org.uk
- **T&G Section of UNITE (Building Crafts Section)**
www.uniteunion.com
- **Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians**
www.ucatt.org.uk



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