

**Press Release
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Immediate Release



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CSCS cards for construction professionals

In response to industry demand, CIC is collaborating with CSCS to improve and extend ways in which cards for construction professionals can be gained.

As things currently stand, construction professionals have the following alternatives if they wish to obtain a CSCS card:

- Apply through the industry NVQ/SVQ route where cards already exist for particular occupations;
- Apply through the industry accreditation route whilst this remains open (varies for particular cards), where cards already exist for particular occupations;

Where these alternatives are not available:

- Apply for a Visitor's card.

A proposal to introduce a Professional Membership Route has been approved in principle by the CSCS Board. A joint CSCS/CIC Working group is developing this new route, with a view to conducting pilots and wider consultation with interested Professional Institutions later this year.

Any detailed proposal in this area will need to take into account a validated relationship between Professional Membership requirements and the NVQ/SVQ requirements of the CSCS Scheme.

Notes to the editor

CIC is the representative forum for the professional bodies, research organisations and specialist trade association in the construction industry. It provides a single voice for professional in all sectors of the built environment through its collective membership of 500,000 individual professionals and 25,000 firms of construction consultants.

CSCS is the construction industry's skills registration scheme. The Scheme is owned and managed by Construction Skills Certification Scheme Ltd, representing construction employers and trade unions and administered, under contract, by CITB (Construction Industry Training Board). CSCS Scheme members are issued with a plastic credit card-sized document carrying their name, photograph, CSCS registration number and trade. These can be used with employers and customers as evidence of the individual's competence and also act as a form of identity. A pass in the health and safety test is indicated by a special hologram on the card.

NVQ/SVQ's are the recognised standard industry qualifications accepted by CSCS as one of the basic requirements for obtaining the card. (these qualifications are also increasingly being recognised for membership purposes by industry professional institutions)

If you would like further information please contact Rhiannon Pugh on 020 7637 8692 or rpugh@cic.org.uk.