

CITB HSE Test Revision & Booking Service – Introduction

'Quality up, accidents down and cowboys out' were the main objectives for the formation of the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) when it was launched in 1995. Today its main purpose is still to help people who work in construction to prove they are competent to do their job. It also shows that they have health and safety awareness as all cardholders have to pass the appropriate health and safety test.

CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) is the leading certification card scheme for construction. Since it was established in 1995 the Scheme has developed to meet the changing needs of the industry and there are now over 2 million cards displaying the CSCS logo. The scheme covers over 250 occupations and has become the industry standard. It is demanded as proof of competence by industry, employers, clients and government. CSCS cards list cardholder's qualifications and are valid for one, three or five years.

Most major contractors and homebuilders require workers on their sites to hold a valid CSCS card as a means to certify their qualifications and training. It is important that you hold the right CSCS card for the type of work you undertake. If you do not have a card, or hold the wrong card, access to construction sites may be denied.

  **June 2020**

Covid-19 - Health, safety and environment test: All test centres in England are now open.

  **June 2019**

Changes were made to make the test even more robust so that operatives can continue to be safe on the job, and know their fellow workers are just as qualified to contribute to a safe working environment. Employers can also have assurance that their qualified workforce is less likely to lose days to injuries on the job.

Up to date with current practice and legislation

All versions of the test were reviewed, and where applicable the questions were updated to keep up with current legislation. The Operatives test in particular underwent a substantial update to better reflect the range of day to day tasks and responsibilities an operative has on site. CITB worked with construction health and safety managers and trainers with years of hands-on experience in making these changes, so that the revised HS&E test is up-to-date and fit for the needs of workers and employers.

Level playing field

Each person taking the revised Operatives test will have the same proportion of easy, medium and hard questions. The test will continue to serve up a random combination of questions to a candidate, but each combination will have the same level of difficulty.

We worked with industry experts to make sure that all the test questions were rated for difficulty, so that the revised test is a 'level playing field' for operatives who take it.

One score to pass

Instead of two sections of questions to answer candidates only have one in the revised test. The behavioural case study questions have been removed.

The test will still examine whether candidates know the right behaviours to demonstrate in the job, as behavioural elements have been incorporated into many of the test questions

As there will only be one section of questions, the score will be simpler to understand as a result.

With the new scoring, candidates will now need the following scores to pass the test:

- for the Operatives test, the pass mark is 45 out of 50
- for the Specialists test, the pass mark is 45 out of 50
- for the Managers and Professionals test, the pass mark is 46 out of 50.

Please note detailed score reports will no longer be available, all information available as to what areas you have passed or failed within your test will be on the score report you receive at the test centre.

New questions and a new style

New questions have been added to better cover the wide range of daily health, safety and environment tasks and responsibilities. So, instead of a limited variety of questions, each candidate will now get a wider selection.

A new question style has also been introduced to the Managers and Professionals (MAP) version of the test. In this new style, candidates will drag and drop the answers into the right order. This format helps test whether a candidate really knows the procedures for being safe on the job.

CSCS Card Use on UK Construction Sites

CSCS cards provide a means to verify that people who work on construction sites have the necessary training and qualifications for the type of work they carry out. The Scheme keeps a database of those working in construction who have, or are committed to achieving, a recognised construction related qualification.

Having a CSCS card verifies your identity and shows employers that you have the required qualifications, training and experience to carry out your work on a construction site. It is vital that construction contractors and clients use a consistent method to check workers' CSCS cards before allowing them on site. Often this has meant a combination of scanning, photocopying or manually recording cardholders' details. However, by using smart technology built into CSCS cards and with an inexpensive card reader, smartphones or tablet devices, cards can be checked and data recorded within seconds.

CSCS cards can be used for many purposes beyond just checking and storing site workers' identification and qualifications, including access control and recording onsite training sessions. The ability for your CSCS SmartCard to be used for a host of additional applications means that this could be the only work related card you need to carry.

There is a wide range of cards covering hundreds of construction related occupations. **Check which card you should apply for by visiting www.cscs.uk.com/cardfinder.** Most card applicants must pass the relevant CITB Health, Safety and Environment Test.

AIMS OF THE SCHEME

- It helps construction workers to get onto more sites
- raise standards of health and safety to reduce risks and accidents throughout the industry
- encourage construction companies and their clients to use skilled workers
- keep a record of workers in the construction industry who have achieved a recognised level of competence and to provide a means of identification

BENEFITS

The scheme aims to provide the following benefits to individuals:

- recognition of skills, competence and qualifications
- improved health and safety awareness
- improved employment prospects
- identification of training needs to improve or update skills

REVISION MATERIALS

Materials to revise, not memorise

Revision materials, such as DVDs, books, downloads and apps, have all been updated alongside changes to the HS&E test. In the operatives version, CITB replaced some questions and answers with short explanatory text and included more diagrams to make it easier for candidates to prepare and revise for the test.

For all tests from 26 June onwards candidates require the 2019 versions of the revision materials. These updates have been designed to help workers learn and be able to practise health and safety. When a worker passes the test, it should be because they **know and practise** safe working, **not** because they've **memorised the answers** but don't really know how to be safe on the job.

HS&E Test for Operatives & Specialists 2019 GT100/19
HS&E Test for Managers & Professionals 2019 GT200/19



This revision material contains everything you need to know to book, prepare for and sit the CITB Health, safety and environment test for operatives and specialists. Content has been updated for 2019 to reflect industry and legislation changes as well as the introduction of learning content alongside questions and answers.

The test includes health, safety and environment knowledge and specialist questions. There are separate revision materials to support the Health, safety and environment test for managers and professionals (MAP), so ensure that you are purchasing the correct revision material.

The following revision formats are available.

- Book:
- Download:
- DVD:
- App:

PRE-TEST REVISION AND TIMETABLE

In order to prepare delegates for their test Morgan HSS has devised a unique pre-test revision session which includes at least one mock test. The benefit of this approach is as follows;

- copies of the guide-book or app are delivered to the home or company of the delegates approximately two weeks prior to the test date in order for them to revise in their own time
- on the date of the test, delegates will attend the virtual (Zoom) revision session during which the course trainer will go through the questions and answers in the guide-book or app.

- delegates will be given tips on how to interpret questions and identify correct answers using a process of elimination
- a mock test will be conducted whereby each delegate will participate using the CITB voice-over CD-Rom. The mock test will be conducted using the same software and bank of questions as used in the real test. This will ensure that those delegates who lack recent experience of PC based testing and/or lack confidence, the opportunity to experience similar test conditions

EVERY QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR the CITB CSCS Health and Safety Test is available. The timetable for the Morgan HSS CSCS Revision and Test Booking service is as follows:

Part One

Delegates receive their Q & A guide-book or app and spend a minimum of two hours revising in their own time

2 hours

Part Two

Delegates spend up to two hours during a virtual (Zoom) training session receiving guidance and tips from the Morgan HSS trainer on the best method of undertaking the test.

2 hours

Part Three

A mock test will be conducted using genuine questions and answers giving delegates the opportunity to experience actual test conditions.

30 minutes to 1 hour depending on the category of test

Part Four

Delegates will undertake the actual test at the local PEARSON VUE CITB CSCS test centre of their choice. Most major towns and cities in the UK have at least one test centre.

45 minutes per delegate maximum

Upon successfully completing the test, each delegate will be given assistance in completing the application form for their CSCS Card, or the relevant card for their affiliated / amalgamated scheme applicable to their profession. The cost of the card is included in the fees charged by Morgan HSS. We can also apply for the cards on behalf of each delegate. We aim to obtain the cards within two to three weeks, but this is subject to receipt and processing by the card issuer which is outside our control.

Please note the issue of CSCS cards to delegates is at the discretion of CSCS or an affiliate organization. They decide what criteria is required e.g. NVQ, experience route, academic qualifications.

COURSE FEES

Our latest price list is available upon request. Please contact us via email at office@morganhss.co.uk. Alternatively, please visit our website at www.morganhss.co.uk where you can obtain further information or make a booking directly. Our fees will include the costs for the revision service, revision book or app, mock test, application form processing, postage and packaging as well as the CSCS card purchase, if successful.