

GRANTS & LEVY - UPDATE

CITB NI's 2019 Annual Levy Return Form will be circulated to all registered employers week commencing 29 July 2019, however, you can complete the 2019 Annual Levy Return Form online now at www.citbni.org.uk

You have a statutory obligation to complete and return by 4pm 30 August 2019.



CITB NI training grants scheme 2019/2020

CITB NI offers direct grants to registered employers for support in a wide range of training and qualifications for their employees working in Northern Ireland.

The Forthcoming £1.45 million grant scheme (launching September 2019) will provide more value to employers and enhanced benefits to the whole industry.

2019/20 Grant Scheme Highlights

- Apprentices support is continuing with a further 25% uplift meaning that £6,500 can be claimed for a fully employed apprentice over a 3-year period. There is also a £1,500 grant available from the Department for the Economy for employers who take on an

apprentice from the very start right through to completion of NVQ Level 2 and 3.

- **NEW** Industrial Placement Grant- £1,500 - This grant has limited places so is only available on a first come, first served basis.
- **NEW** Travel and accommodation grant for training courses not available in Northern Ireland - £100 per day (max 5 days). Limited funding and pre-approval required.
- The cap introduced now only applies to short duration training courses lasting up to ten days.

Full details of grant scheme, terms and conditions, forms and the online claim function are available on our website www.citbni.org.uk/grants or by contacting a member of our team on **028 9082 5466** or email grants@citbni.org.uk

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Deadline for all Levy Return Forms including Options and New Registrations must be adhered to otherwise, grants will be restricted to apprentice grant only.

- Grant claims can only be submitted for employees who work in Northern Ireland and declared on the employers Annual Return Form.
- All grant claims must be received by CITB NI within three months of commencement of training or upon registration onto course or apprenticeship scheme, otherwise grant will be declined.
- Employers are encouraged to make grant claims on line at www.citbni.org.uk.



Training in Partnership Grants

The Training in Partnership Grants offer funding directly to industry federations and representative bodies or provide training as identified and procured by CITB NI on behalf of the construction industry.

Training in Partnership Grants are designed to directly fund training delivered to employers at little or no cost to encourage strategically important training or to improve performance of the industry in relation to future needs.

To find out more about Training in Partnership Grant, contact us on **028 9082 5466**



GRANTS & LEVY - UPDATE

Levy - update

All construction industry employers are required by law to register with CITB NI and to complete and return the Annual Levy Return form before 4pm on 30 August 2019.

If your wages bill is greater or equal to £80,000 levy is payable on the gross emoluments at the current levy rate and if below £80,000 you will not be liable to pay a levy but must still complete the Annual Return Form and you can benefit from CITB NI.

The money raised through levy will help share the investment across the industry to help maintain a solid skills base, meeting the immediate needs of individual customers and in the long term benefiting the whole industry by helping avoid skills shortages.

Should I be Registered?

If you can answer YES to the following questions you should be registered with CITB NI

1. Are you working in the construction industry in Northern Ireland *?
2. Are you an **employer**?
3. Are you working in Northern Ireland for 27 or more weeks in relevant tax year?

* activities of the construction industry are defined within Schedule 1 of the Industrial Training Board Order 1964.

As a registered construction employer you will gain access to the following benefits:

- Training Grants for you and your Team

- Training through our Mobile Training Unit and scaffolding facility
- Training support at employer information events and through our online training directory
- Training Research for accurate, current and forward looking labour market intelligence

- Careers information through our website and careers events.

[Register now and download the Return form.](#)



CITB NI TRAINING

First aid training

CITB NI are providing a series of FREE one day Emergency First Aid at Work Training Courses throughout Northern Ireland. Successful Completion will result in a Level 3 Emergency First Aid at Work Certificate issued by Highfield Qualifications.

These courses have been very popular – click on the flyer below for dates and details.



Social Impact Measurement Training

Date: Wednesday 28 August 2019
Venue: CITB NI, Nutts Corner Training Centre
Time: 10am-12:30pm

CITB NI are working in partnership with Social Enterprise NI to deliver Social Impact Measurement Training for the Industry.

Do you currently apply for tenders and need to show that you deliver more than bricks and mortar? Do you work with Social Enterprises in your Supply Chain but are unsure on how to measure it? This training is for you.

The session will cover

- Introduction to Social Impact
- How Social Impact has gained momentum
- Understanding importance of measuring your social impact
- Differing ways of how it can be measured
- Exploring different measurement tools
- Communicating your impact.

To book your FREE place email: amanda@socialenterpriseni.org
or telephone 028 9046 1810



CITB NI TRAINING

SCAFFOLDING

We provide the CISRS scaffolding training courses at Nutts Corner Training Centre. These courses include a five-day Basic Access Systems Erector Course (BASE) and a three-day Tube & Fitting Basic Scaffold Inspection course. On successful completion of these courses the relevant CISRS Scaffolding card will be issued.

These courses run alongside the existing CISRS programme of CISRS Operative Training Scheme (COTS), Scaffolding Part One, Part Two and Advanced courses working towards achievement of an NVQ and obtaining a Scaffolding or Advanced Scaffolding Card.

Subsidised CPD Scaffolding Course 13 & 14 August 2019

The Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS) is marking the second anniversary of the introduction of CPD courses for scaffolders by running a number of subsidised courses across the UK. CISRS has reached an agreement with a number of training providers that will enable them to deliver CPD courses for up to only £50 per head.

This course will be running at CITB NI on 13 & 14 August 19 with limited places left.

For more information and bookings contact Gillian Watt:
gillian.watt@citbni.org.uk Tel: 028 90 824205

Too busy to leave your site? Let the Mobile Training Unit come to you

As long as you are based in Northern Ireland, the Mobile Training Unit (MTU) can come to you and provide short duration health and safety courses such as confined spaces, excavations, manual handling and working at heights, encouraging the industry to build safely.

The MTU provides training on site to all registered in-scope construction employers. It is a convenient way of meeting training requirements with minimum disruption to site work whilst also helping employers meet their legal responsibility.

Registered in-scope levy paying employers can book the Mobile Training Unit free of charge.



Booking is easy, you can contact Stevie Shields on: **Tel: 07801 598520** or Tel 028 9082 5466 and we can facilitate your booking and answer any queries you have. Alternatively you can email stevie.shields@citbni.org.uk

CITB NI TRAINING

National Asbestos Training and Awareness Centre

Plans are well underway to establish the first NI National Asbestos Training and Awareness Centre in Northern Ireland at CITB NI's Nutts Corner Premises.

The centre will provide a ground-breaking range of facilities that can be used to assist the delivery of a wide range of asbestos related training and awareness raising courses.

Commenting on the development David Cooper, Director of Industry Training & Support at CITB NI said "this is something we have been looking at doing for a while now. We are all too aware of the need to inform, advise and qualify those who are exposed to asbestos

materials whilst undertaking their work activities. A lot of time and effort has already been spent raising awareness of the dangers of asbestos not least the HSE NI campaign, but we wish to provide a facility that can be used not just for the construction industry but across many sectors who encounter asbestos in their work environment".

The National Asbestos Training and Awareness Centre will be operational from September 2019 with several Awareness Raising and Non-Licensed Work with Asbestos Qualification Courses planned.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Gillian at gillian.watt@citbni.org.uk

Virtual Environment Training - VET360

CITB NI's innovative VET360 provides a unique and memorable immersive experience which gives the user instant access to construction sites in a workplace environment. Used as a training tool VET360 allows the user to experience being onsite within a safe training environment. The facility

allows the user to see more, save time and stay safe as VET360 is the perfect bridge between theoretical classroom training and the reality of a busy construction site.

Interested in experiencing VET360 and seeing how it could transform your training? Contact email: David.cooper@citbni.org.uk for more information.



OTHER NEWS

Promotion Officers

Joyce Savage and Lorraine Fisher are temporary CITB NI Promotion Officers who will be visiting employers, accountants and employer representatives to outline the role of CITB NI, statutory requirements, benefits and compliance.



CITB NI's Women in Construction Network Launches New Careers Materials for Girls

CITB NI's Women in Construction Network is proactive in promoting the construction industry as a career for young women. There are many successful women now working in the industry and the old stereotypes associated with construction are falling away. The industry is dynamic and forward thinking and the women working in it are creating successful careers with bright futures.

As such CITB NI and members of its Women in Construction Network have joined forces to produce a new case study booklet, featuring lots of case studies of women in a variety of roles in the construction industry. The booklet features a construction manager, an architectural technician, several different types of engineers,

a design manager, a human resource manager, and a solicitor to name a few.

The booklet outlines the benefits of working in the industry and provides words of advice and encouragement for those thinking of a career in construction. The booklet will be used as a promotional tool and will be distributed at careers events and to schools across Northern Ireland.

Further case studies about women in construction, and case studies featuring apprentices, Skillbuild winners, companies who have done training, and much more, are available on the CITB NI website.

CITB NI has also created a three-minute video featuring two women working for leading contractors in the Northern Ireland construction industry.

CITB NI would like to thank the women involved and their employers for their contribution to these projects.

Both the case study booklet and the video are now available to [download on the CITB NI website](#). Details of how to join the Women in Construction Network are also available on this page.



OTHER NEWS

CITB NI supporting local schools with GCSE resources

CITB NI has developed a textbook to support the GCSE in Construction and the Built Environment subject and is providing 25 complimentary copies to each of the 45 schools that teaches the subject.

GCSE in Construction and the Built Environment provides students with a realistic understanding and experience of modern-day practices in the construction industry and helps develop their knowledge of the construction industry and the built environment. The textbook contains all the essential underpinning knowledge required of a student who has never studied construction before and who wishes to explore the subject for the first time and has been updated to reflect the changes in the specification.

Barry Neilson, Chief Executive, CITB NI said, "Construction is a rewarding industry with a variety of opportunities on offer from project management to onsite roles with prospects for career enhancement and good earning potential. The popularity of the subject is growing and around 7000 pupils have undertaken the exam over the past decade. We are aware of the pressure on school budgets and delighted to present 25 complimentary books to each school providing GCSE in Construction each year. This will provide students with effective support material for the subject and may be a potential stepping stone in the right direction for a future career in construction. CITB NI also provides an annual bursary to the top 3 achieving students who excel in the subject and are acknowledged for their hard work and achievements."

CITB NI visited, Cullybackey College, St Patricks Grammar, Armagh, St Michael's College, Enniskillen and Hazelwood Integrated College, Newtownabbey.

Mr Davidson teacher at Cullybackey College said, "We would like to thank CITB NI for the complimentary

copies of the newly revised GCSE Construction and Built Environment, it is an excellent resource for both students and teachers within the school. We have been running this subject for over 10 years within the school and it has proved very popular with students.



OTHER NEWS

Time to employ an apprentice

With skills shortages and an aging workforce putting the industry at risk, CITB NI are appealing to construction employers to employ industry apprentices to help sustain the future of the sector and have not only enhanced the apprentice grants from September 2019 to £6500 over the 3 year period but also have developed resources to help and inform employers on the benefits of apprentices and how to claim the allocated grants.

Apprentices are good for your business!

Research indicates that apprenticeships boost productivity so more and more employers are choosing to grow their business by employing apprentices. Offering young people an apprenticeship gives your business the chance to play an active role in creating your future workforce and developing future skills that they need to help your business grow.

Download 10 reasons to employ an apprentice



Download - a guide to apprenticeships for employers



Watch our 2 short videos on apprentices.

► 1. Employing an apprentice



► 2. How to apply for relevant apprenticeship grants.



OTHER NEWS

Horizon 2020 BIMcert Project

CITB NI in partnership with Belfast Met and other European project partners from Ireland, Portugal, Croatia and Macedonia have secured a €1.25M (£1.11m) Horizon 2020 grant to develop BIMcert - a training model and toolkit to help all levels of the industry take their first, or next, step to working with BIM.

Building Information Modelling (BIM) is key to the built environment, as digital and virtual reality technology provides enhanced management on all aspects of the project lifecycle by all parties involved.

About the project

The project aims to develop a suite of training tools and electronic platform for any EU training provider to adopt and develop BIM/digital construction skills throughout the industry.

The intention is to ensure that all within the industry have a training module that will help them access and use the Information and visual Modelling that BIM / Digital Construction provides.

<https://energybimcert.eu/>

SKILLS NI

CITB NI is delighted to be promoting construction as a career at the Skills Northern Ireland event on the 20 & 21 November 2019 at the Titanic Exhibition Centre, Belfast. Having exhibited for the past two years this is an ideal opportunity to try your hand at constructing a roof, building a staircase and finding out which role in construction is suited to you. We will also be hosting additional interactive displays from key employers within the construction industry all to help promote the relevant careers that are available.

Skills Northern Ireland is the one-stop shop for career opportunities in Northern Ireland and provides young people with the opportunity to try a wide range of jobs and training opportunities and to gain

inspiration for their future careers. Whether they choose to go to university/college or embark on an apprenticeship, choosing the right career for them is the first step to determining what further learning they need to get there.

CITB NI will be showcasing construction to over 8,000 visitors highlighting the variety of careers available and providing interactive skills activities and hands on learning experiences in order to demonstrate the variety of careers available within the industry.

**The Titanic Exhibition Centre,
Belfast, 20 & 21 November 2019
9:30am – 3pm**

Learn more here: <http://www.skillsnorthernireland.co.uk>.

OTHER NEWS

Everyone loves a story.....

Tell your story and help encourage the next generation into construction.

We are calling on everyone working in the industry to tell us how they got involved in construction, the companies they work for and what they love about construction. We want to help dispel construction myths and inspire the next generation by sharing your stories to give them a flavour of real-life construction.

Interested? Contact Siobhan Daly
028 90 824222 email –
Siobhan.daly@citbni.org.uk

New Business Improvement Events launching September 2019

An updated programme of Business Improvement Events will be launching in September 2019 and will be held in a series of venues across Northern Ireland.

Topics may include BIM for small businesses, Drone usage & legal responsibilities, Legislative changes, Emerging technologies, Digital & Social Media, Tendering and GDPR and Cyber Security.

Keep an eye out on our website and social media channels for more information.

Top 10 things CITB NI does for the NI Construction Industry.

CITB NI is both an Industry Training Board and Sector Skills Council. Our role is to work in partnership with the industry improving their performance and productivity through improving the skills of those employed or intending to be employed in the industry. The top 10 things we do for the industry are:

- (1) **Engage with the construction industry & stakeholder organisations**
- (2) **Complete training research & product development**
- (3) **Standards & Qualifications**
- (4) **Train the Industry**
- (5) **Grants**
- (6) **Training Advice**
- (7) **Training Centre**
- (8) **Recruitment & Careers**
- (9) **Skillbuild NI**
- (10) **Levy and Non Levy Income**

For more details download the Top Ten Flyer [here](#).

INDUSTRY REPORTS

Workforce Mobility Survey 2018/19

The Workforce Mobility Survey seeks to establish reliable information on the qualification levels of the UK construction workforce, and also the extent of geographic and occupational mobility. The focus of the survey was on site-based manual occupations. The NI survey consisted of 155 face-to-face interviews with construction workers.

The main findings of the survey are:

- More than a third (37%) of NI construction workers have worked in the construction industry for over 20 years. More than three-quarters of workers in NI have only ever worked in the construction industry (79%).

- Ninety-seven percent of all workers in NI are sure that they hold at least one type of skill card or certificate proving that they have received a certain level of health and safety awareness training

- More than half of construction workers reported holding some sort of construction related qualification at the time of interview (55%). Fifty six percent of the workforce in NI have no formal qualifications, compared to 37% in the UK as a whole.

- One in ten construction workers in NI believes they would benefit from some form of training in basic skills (10%).

- Around a fifth of all construction workers in NI perform a supervisory or management role at their site (21%).
- More than half of all workers in NI have worked in this region for their entire construction career (57%), lower than in 2015 (77%).
- Overall more than three-quarters (77%) felt it was very likely or definite that they would still want to work in construction in 5 years' time

