Scaffolding

Scaffolding Training

The standard recognised for scaffolders in the UK is the Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS).

This is the specific scaffolders scheme which requires candidates to follow a training programme in tube and fitting or system scaffolding, gain site experience and achieve a Level 2 competence qualification.

Candidates can progress to advanced scaffolder stage after further experience, training and by achieving a Level 3 competence qualification.

Non-Scaffolders such as House builders and small contractors that would erect system scaffolding on building sites should have received adequate training from a competent instructor with scaffolding experience. CITB NI recommend the 5 day (Basic Access System Erector course (B.A.S.E) which is accredited by the CISRS scheme.

Persons involved in the inspection of scaffolding should receive adequate training from a competent person with adequate knowledge of scaffolding such as the 2 day CISRS Tube & Fitting Basic Scaffold Inspection course or the 2 day Advanced Scaffold Inspection course.

Those involved in erecting the different types of system scaffolding such as Cuplock, Haki, Turner Plus Eight, Layher, Plettac Contur, Belle or Kwikstage should have received product training as per manufacturer guidance on each system such as the CISRS 2 day product training courses.

Also make sure you have available and use manufacturer's user guides.

Qualifications

As part of the CISRS scheme candidates must complete an NVQ at level 2 in Accessing Operations and Rigging – Scaffolding and an NVQ Level 3 Accessing Operations and Rigging - Scaffolding for advanced.

This is the qualification recognised by your industry and the qualification is based on National Occupational Standards that have been approved by the scaffolding industry.

Many construction firms and their clients already insist that workers hold this qualification.

Qualification assessment methods

Experienced Worker Practical Assessment Route (EWPAR) is available at level 2 and is normally delivered over 2 day period. On Site Assessment and Training (OSAT) is available at Level 2 & 3 and usually takes 2 - 3 months to complete from.

Other recommended training

Scaffolders may require other training throughout their career such as: Mobile Elevated Work Platforms MEWP, Harness Inspection Course; Safety Harness; Manual Handling, Confined Spaces with Breathing Apparatus; Abrasive Wheel. Power and hand tools, ladders Rescue training for scaffolders (Rope access (Scaffpack/Gotcha) Temporary Works BS 5975:2008, Mobile Tower (Pasma), Tufcoat shrink wrap, TG20 or SG4, Pedestrian barriers, Hoarding, Skips and rubbish shuts, Grading of scaffolding boards, this is not an exhaustive list.

Associations or training forums

Access and Scaffolding Industry Training Forum (ASITO) meets in London.

National Access and Scaffolding Confederation (NASC) meets in GB.

Northern Ireland Scaffolding Employer Training Group.

Does a registration card exist for this occupation

Yes, at Blue and Gold levels providing the CISRS scheme standard has been achieved.

What does CITB NI do for this sector

CITB is currently the only accredited centre in Northern Ireland to offer the full CISRS scheme course, it also offers the CISRS scheme training for scaffolding inspection and advanced inspection courses and the Basic Access System Erector course (B.A.S.E) which is accredited by the CISRS scheme.

CITB provide an on-line training directory in our courses section of the web site at www.citbcsni.org.uk courses are available for a range of different topics.

CITB provide grant assistance for employers that send employees on training courses please see our grant section at the above website.

A Health & Safety advice booklet for scaffolders has been developed and is available to view within the publications section of our website.

A Health & Safety Training Blueprint has been developed and is also available to view within the publications section of our website **www.citbni.org.uk**

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