

Construction Skills Certification Scheme

Candidate Pack for– CSCS 180° Excavator

Please read this document carefully. Further information and clarification may be obtained from the CSCS Operations Unit, phone 01 5332500

Guidance Notes for Candidates

The following documents are also attached:

- Part 1 – Skills Self-Analysis
- Part 2 – Applicant Details
- Part 3 – Endorsement of Operating Competence
- Part 4 – Practical Test Criteria

Aim of Programme

The CSCS plant training and assessment programme enables trained construction plant operators to gain recognition for their achievements by the way of certification and provide an opportunity for participants to demonstrate their skills, knowledge and attitudes associated with plant operations, which provides suitable certification.

Candidate Profile

Candidates for this programme must:

- Have at least six months full time experience operating as a trainee 180° excavator operator in construction in accordance with the 5th Schedule – of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013 – S.I. No. 291 of 2013. The six months experience must be within the last two years.
- Possess a valid 'Safe Pass' registration card
- Be at least 18 years of age

Note: The above items must be verified by the current or previous employer (Part 3 of this pack)

Application Requirements

- Approved Training organisations must send the Candidate Pack and Course Notes to the Candidate at least five days prior to the course date.
- Sections A, B, and C of Part 2 need to be completed by the applicant with Part 3 completed by the employer.
- Section C of part 2 must list at least six months full time experience operating as a trainee 180° excavator operator.
- Part 1 Skills Self-analysis, Part 2 - Applicant Details and Part 3 - Endorsement of Operating Competence must be completed and submitted to the chosen Approved Training Organisation at least one-day prior to attending the one-day training and assessment programme. Failure to do so will result in the candidate being unable to complete the programme.

Candidates must bring with them on the day:- a passport sized photograph, their Safe Pass card plus safety helmet, safety boots, reflective 'hi-viz' jacket and gloves.

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One Day Programme Content

Induction

Registration and induction will be undertaken at the start of the day. Candidates **must** present their Safe Pass card and photograph to the Instructor. Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the Candidate Pack must be already submitted to the Provider.

Skills Validation Session

Candidates will undertake a minimum of a 3 hour Skills Validation Session with the course instructor. The Skills Validation Session cannot give skills and knowledge not already held but allows trained operators to eliminate 'bad habits' gained on site.

Please note that the instructor has the right to refuse the candidate access to the test if they have demonstrated dangerous operating skills that contravene any part of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Regulations.

Theory Test

On completion of the Skills Validation Session, candidates are allowed 45 minutes to undertake a multi-choice question paper. Questions will be based on the following:

- Legislation and regulations
- Employer and employee responsibilities
- Safe working practices
- Machine components and functions
- Correct operating techniques
- Pre-use checks and basic maintenance
- Road travel (where relevant)
- Types and characteristics of materials and loads
- Site safety
- Shut down and securing procedures

Subjects that the questions will be based on will be covered during the Skills Validation Session.

To be successful on the theory test, candidates must achieve a minimum of 70% of the total available marks. Candidates who achieve a minimum of 85% will be awarded a credit.

Practical Test

On the test the candidate will demonstrate tasks with the excavator. The tasks to be undertaken, equipment required and a sample grading sheet is contained in Part 4 of this pack – Practical Test criteria. Part 4 of this pack details the equipment and resources needed for the test and the tasks the candidate will be expected to carry out with a 180° excavator.

The grading sheet is divided into essential items and scored marks. Scored marks allow a limited number of minor errors to be made. To succeed, the candidate must achieve all essential items and not exceed the maximum score. Candidates who score no penalty marks as well as all the essential marks will be awarded a credit. The practical test has a maximum time of 1 hour and 15 minutes in which all tasks must be completed.

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Feedback and Certification

If a candidate meets the required standard, the approved training organisation will send the relevant assessment documentation to SOLAS for certification and registration. The CSCS card is printed and posted to the training provider for distribution to Learners. A QQI certificate will also be awarded as a result of a pass on the one-day programme. Candidates who achieve a credit in the theory test **and** practical test will be awarded an overall credit.

Candidates who are referred will receive written feedback from the assessor, and may be advised to undertake further training and/or site experience.

If a candidate is successful in the theory but not the practical part of the test, then they may reattempt just the practical part. If the candidate has not been successful in the theory test, then they may not attempt the practical test.

This concession may only occur if the candidate returns to the same approved trainer and training organisation within 9 months. If they choose to go to a different organisation, they will have to do both the practical and theory parts again.

For learners who do not reach the required standard, a period of 5 days must elapse before they can retake the test.

Registration Card Duration

CSCS registration cards are valid for five years and can be renewed up to six months before the expiry date.

Cancellation of Certificates and Registration Cards

Where it is discovered that the information provided by the Applicant was incorrect or the programme was not delivered in accordance with SOLAS specifications the Certification and registration card may be withdrawn and the relevant authorities notified.

DATA PROTECTION NOTICE

PARTICIPANT AND EMPLOYER DATA PROTECTION NOTICE

1. PERSONAL DATA COLLECTED AND OBTAINED

This Data Protection Notice ("Notice") sets out the basis on which SOLAS ("SOLAS", "we", "our" or "us") of Block 1, Castleforbes House, Castleforbes Road, Dublin 1 will use the personal details ("Personal Data") provided when completing the application form (the "Form") to be registered as a CSCS/QSCS cardholder. This Notice also details how SOLAS will process this Personal Data for the purpose of assessing the Form and, if successful, issuing a CSCS/QSCS card to you ("Card"). The Personal Data we obtain from you will be held by SOLAS as a controller. SOLAS will collect and process the Personal Data that you provide in the Form.

IMPORTANT: where you provide Personal Data about other individuals (e.g. your existing/previous employer or endorsers), you agree that you are responsible for ensuring that such individuals know their Personal Data will be used by SOLAS accordance with this Notice.

2. HOW AND WHY WE PROCESS YOUR PERSONAL DATA

This section details how ("legal basis") and why ("purposes") we process your Personal Data:

Legal basis: it is necessary to process your Personal Data to enter into and perform our contract with you including for the following purposes: (a) to process your Form; (b) to issue you with a Card; (c) to verify your Card on an ongoing basis; (d) to renew your Card where you ask us to do so; and (e) to respond to you when we receive any correspondence from you. **IMPORTANT:** If you do not provide us with your Personal Data so that we can process it for the above purposes, we will not be able to assess or process your Form, issue you with or renew your Card and/or communicate with you as necessary in relation to your Form and/or your Card.

Legal basis: it is also necessary to process your Personal Data for the purpose of complying with legal obligations to which we are subject including to fulfil our statutory functions.

3. DISCLOSURE OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

We may disclose some or all of your Personal Data to the following parties: SOLAS business units, SOLAS agents or service providers including CSCS/QSCS trainers, your existing or potential employers, government and state authorities including in particular the Construction Industry Federation (CIF), Credit Card Systems Ireland Ltd and Quality and Qualifications Ireland. We may also disclose your Personal Data to third parties if we are under a legal duty to disclose or share your Personal Data in order to comply with any legal or regulatory obligation or request or to perform a public function.

4. KEEPING YOUR PERSONAL DATA

We will keep your Personal Data for the period for which your Card is valid and/or renewed and for a period of 7.5 years from when your Card expires and/or is not renewed. In some cases, we will need to retain your Personal Data for longer periods for compliance with legal obligations imposed on us or where we are a party to legal proceedings with you, and to ensure you a continued client service. Such Personal Data will be securely retained in line with the SOLAS records retention and disposal Procedure.

5. YOUR RIGHTS

The following are your rights to address any concerns or queries regarding the processing of your Personal Data. You can exercise any of these rights by submitting a request to the Data Protection Officer, SOLAS, Block 1, Castleforbes House, Dublin 1. We will provide you with information on any action taken upon your request in relation to any of these rights without undue delay and at the latest within one month of receiving your request. We may extend this by up to 2 months if necessary, however we will inform you if this arises. You have the right to lodge a complaint with the Data Protection Commission with regards to our processing of your Personal Data.

- The Right to Access
- The Right to Rectification
- The Right to Erasure
- The Right to Restriction of Processing
- The Right to Object to Processing
- The Right to Withdraw Consent
- The Right to Data Portability
- The Right to Object Automated Decision Making

6. CHANGES TO THIS NOTICE

We may amend this Notice from time to time, in whole or part, at our sole discretion. Any changes to this notice will be posted on the SOLAS CSCS/QSCS website at <http://www.solas.ie/Pages/CSCS.aspx>

If at any time we decide to use your Personal Data in a manner significantly different from that stated in this Notice, or otherwise disclosed to you at the time it was collected, we will notify you by e-mail, and you will have a choice as to whether or not we use your information in the new manner.

7. CONTACT US

If you have questions or concerns about this Notice, please contact the SOLAS Data Protection Officer at SOLAS Data Protection Officer, SOLAS, Castleforbes House, Dublin 1

Construction Skills Certification Scheme

Part 1 - Skills Self-Analysis CSCS 180° Excavator

Introduction

The aim of this form is to allow applicants to measure their knowledge and experience on the safe use of 180° Excavators against the questions below. This is to ensure that all those attending the One-day Trained Operator Programme have sufficient skills and knowledge to comfortably meet the required standards. This section **must** be completed and returned to the chosen Approved Training Organisation prior to or on the day of attending the one-day training and assessment programme.

Instructions to the Applicant

Please take your time and answer all questions honestly, as dishonest answers mean that you may be unsuccessful on the course programme. On completion, add up the total number of questions you have scored as 'yes' and refer to the Assessment Grading which will analyse your knowledge and experience.

Assessment Questions

Please answer **all** questions as indicated:

	Yes	No
1. can you identify and use all the controls correctly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. can you extract information from the operator's handbook?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. do you correctly carry out all pre-use and running checks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. can you correctly configure the excavator for site and road travel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. have you travelled over differing types of terrain including rough, undulating ground?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. can you travel up & down steep substantial slopes correctly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. can you set the excavator correctly to dig below or level ground, and/or load vehicles?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. do you know the minimum distance spoil should be kept from a trench and why?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. do you know the recommended minimum distance when working near power lines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. can you explain the purpose of the stabilisers and when they should be used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. can you excavate and grade materials to site tolerances?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. have you loaded vehicles correctly and without delay?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. have you changed buckets using correct methods?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. do you know the correct procedure when placing or unloading the excavator onto or from a vehicle bed or trailer?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. can you shut down and secure the excavator correctly after work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Yes Total _____

Candidate Name Date

Construction Skills Certification Scheme

Part 1 - Skills Self-Analysis CSCS 180° Excavator

Assessment Grading

If you have scored 11 – 15

You appear to have a good understanding of 180° excavator operations to comfortably participate on the trained operator course programme.

If you have scored 8 – 10

Your understanding of 180° excavator operations is limited and we advise that you acquire further knowledge before attending the trained operator course programme. Remedial training and further site experience is advised.

Less than 8

Your supposed understanding of 180° excavator operations is very limited and we strongly advise you not to attend the course until you have undertaken remedial or full training.

Assessment Requirements

Should a candidate have any particular assessment requirements i.e. need a translator or reader/writer or any other form of special needs, the approved training organisation **must** be informed well in advance of attending the one day programme so that the appropriate help may be sourced.

Information regarding a candidate's particular requirements will be treated with the strictest confidence by the approved training organisation.

REMINDER

Candidates must bring with them on the day:

Passport sized photograph	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safe Pass card	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety helmet	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety boots	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reflective 'hi-viz' jacket	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloves	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further information and clarification may be obtained from the CSCS Unit Office or phone 015332500

Construction Skills Certification Scheme

Part 2 - Application Details CSCS 180° Excavator

Section A Applicant Details

Surname Forenames.....

Address

.....

Tel: Date of Birth:

PPS Number Safe Pass Expiry Date:

Candidate Profile

Candidates for this programme must:

- Have at least six months full time experience operating as a trainee 180° excavator operator in construction in accordance with the 5th Schedule – of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013 – S.I. No. 291 of 2013. The six months experience must be within the last two years.
- Possess a valid 'Safe Pass' registration card
- Be at least 18 years of age

Section B Applicant Declaration

I confirm that the information detailed in this application, and any submitted information is valid, genuine and correct.

- I have at least six months full time experience operating as a trainee 180° Excavator operator in construction within the last two years
- I am in possession of a valid 'Safe Pass' registration card
- I am at least 18 years of age

Please sign

Date:

Construction Skills Certification Scheme Part 2 - Application Details CSCS 180⁰ Excavator

Section C Applicant Experience

Please briefly list work carried out with a 180° excavator for at least six months, including dates and location of work.

Dates from/to	Machine make & model	Location and brief details of work done
Example 9 Dec 14– 22 May 2015	JCB 3CX	Barron Homebuilds, Kilty Street, Dublin. <i>Excavating foundations, drains, and general landscaping</i>
		(continue on a separate sheet if needed)

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Part 3 - Endorsement of Operating Competence - 180° Excavator

Applicant Name.....

This endorsement of operating competence must be completed by an existing or previous employer. This part can only be completed by a supervisor or line manager of the employer.

The endorsing individual should only initial the statements where they can confirm that the applicant can carry out the work. Some endorsements may require the initials of more than one endorser.

Copies of this form may be made if there are more than two endorsers signing.

Each statement must be initialled by the endorser. The applicant can only be considered competent providing **all** statements are signed by one or more endorsers in the Endorsers details section.

I consider that the above named applicant is able to competently:	Initials
1. Check, inspect and maintain a 180° excavator for efficient and safe use under construction site conditions	
2. Strip, remove and segregate top and subsoil's, and carry out reinstatements	
3. Load a variety of vehicles i.e. dumpers, dump trucks, tippers etc with a 180° excavator	
4. Set and excavate to line and level for a variety of 180° excavations	
5. Lift and place loads in relation to site works with a 180° excavator	
6. Park, shut down, secure and leave the 180° excavator in a safe condition	
7. Follow given instructions and manufacturer's requirements when working with the 180° excavator	

Endorser's Details

Full Name:

Company name and address:

Position: Contact Tel no:

Relationship to Applicant.....

The named individual signing this section must be in a supervisory or managerial position, nominated by the employer organisation.

Declaration

We/I the employer confirm that:

- the applicant has as least six months full time experience operating as a trainee 180° excavator operator in construction within the last two years
- the applicant is in possession of a valid 'Safe Pass' registration card
- the information detailed in this application, and any submitted information is valid, genuine and correct.

Name:

Date:

Construction Skills Certification Scheme

Part 4 - Practical Test Specifications - 180° Excavator

Equipment and Resources

- Serviceable 180° excavator of at least 6 tonnes operating weight, which meets current legislation, certified for lifting. The excavator must be fitted with a quick hitch and a general purpose excavating bucket on the backhoe and a clamshell type (4 in 1) front loader bucket, with the operator's manual.
- A vehicle(s) for loading. For front loader use, this must be a rear tipping vehicle having a capacity equivalent to 5 full bucket loads of the excavator being used for the test. A forward tipping dumper may be used for backhoe use. Assisting operators must be competent and qualified (CSCS Card where relevant).
- An area of ground, clear of hazards which must include:
 - uneven, rough terrain
 - a slope(s) not less than 18% (1:5.5) incline (The slope must be at least 1.5 times the length of the machine)
 - a level area to allow for excavations up to 2.0 metres deep
- a stockpile of material for loading purposes
- A replacement backhoe bucket for changing purposes.
- 1 x load which must be a minimum of 50% of the maximum lifting capacity of the backhoe with stabilisers
- Suitable certificated lifting accessories.
- Cones/materials etc to create restrictions for travelling and manoeuvring.
- Appropriate marking, sighting and lining equipment to ensure excavation levels and centres

Tasks

The Candidate needs to:

1. Carry out full pre-start and running checks as required by the manufacturer.
2. Prepare the excavator for travel.
3. Travel to the excavating area. The route must include:
 - travelling up and down the incline(s)
 - passing through a restriction being no more than the width of the excavator plus 800mm, in a forward and reverse direction
 - travelling over rough, uneven terrain
4. Excavate 2 x trenches, 5 metres in length with square ends at right angles to each other. The depth of the excavations must be 1.0 metre deep +/- 30mm by 1 x bucket width. (refer to plan)
5. On completion of task 4, excavate 1 x trench 2 metres in length, starting from midpoint of one of the 5 metre trenches, and 1 x trench 2 metres in length starting at one end of the same 5 metre length trench. The depth of the excavations must be 1.0 metre deep +/- 30mm by 1 x bucket width (refer to plan). These trenches **must** be excavated towards the open trench.
6. On completion of task 5, reinstate and compact the earthworks back to level using the applicable functions of the front loader bucket.
7. Load material from the stockpile into the vehicles to capacity using the front loader and the backhoe. There must be a minimum of four full bucket loads using the backhoe (the vehicle may be partially loaded using the backhoe whilst excavating the trenches).
 - Remove the existing backhoe bucket and set the excavator to lift the Load. Lift the Load and slew a minimum of 160 degrees. Once landed return the load to the original starting point and detach
8. Attach the replacement bucket
9. Travel the excavator to a park position, shut down and secure.

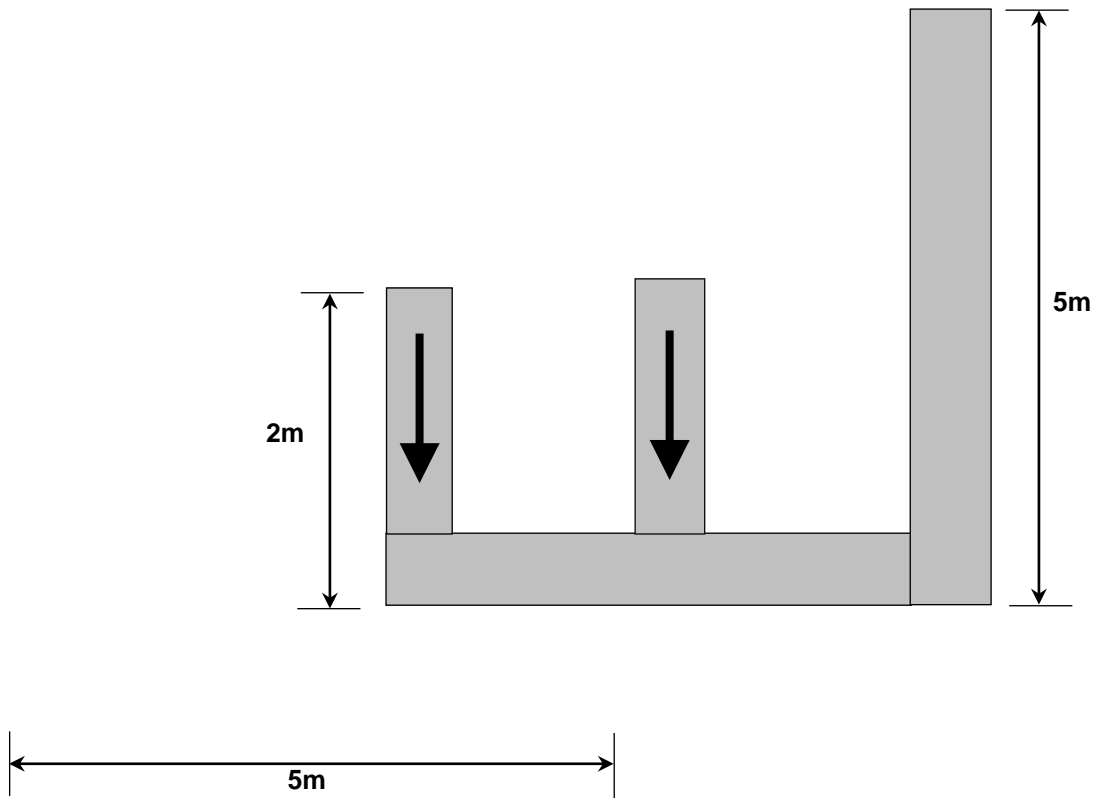
Time

- The candidate must complete all tasks within 1 hour and 15 minutes (75 minutes)

Notes

- Verbal questions may be used for task 1, but **only** on items not able to be checked due to heat of the engine, i.e. coolant, oil level etc.
- The incline must be either one ramp with sufficient manoeuvring area on top **or**
Two ramps with a level area at the top to halt the excavator

Excavation Plan



Example of Practical Assessment marking sheet

1.	Carry out pre-start and running checks (verbal questions correctly answered if engine hot)
2.	Mount and dismount correctly
3.	Maintain full observation
4.	Keep clear of all hazards whilst travelling
5.	Travel correctly on the inclines
6.	Keep the excavated material clear of trench
7.	Ensure excavated trenches conform to the stated sizes and tolerances
8.	Reinstate the excavated area back to the original contours
9.	Ensure the vehicle was evenly loaded but not overloaded
10.	Conform with legislation and manufacturer's instructions