



Fencing Industry Skills Scheme / Construction Skills Certification Scheme

Information Booklet



Supported by



Version 20 27 2017

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Please note that this is a live document and is subject to change.

Information Booklet and Frequently Asked Questions: Fencing Industry Skills Scheme/ Construction Skills Certification Scheme

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1.0 Introduction

This document is aimed primarily at employers and potential applicants for the Fencing Industry Skills Scheme (FISS), supported by the Construction Skills Certification Scheme Ltd (CSCS) as required by the Construction Leadership Council (CLC) under the Industrial Strategy: Construction 2025 as contracted with CSCS.

The Construction 2025 strategy identified the need for a single logo across the construction industry for skills cards and agreed that the common card scheme logo would be CSCS. This provides clients, employers and contractors with a consistent means of recognising that an individual has achieved the agreed standard of qualification and skill in the occupation they are working in and to give the industry confidence in that brand.

2.0 What does FISS/CSCS provide?

FISS/CSCS provides:

- a framework for skills development and progression through a structured card scheme
- access to FISS/CSCS cards that incorporates national fencing qualifications and health and safety training and assessment
- assurance to employers that labourers, installers, supervisors and managers have achieved a recognised qualification

The scheme is underpinned by Sector Schemes 2A, 2B, 2C and 5B (Note: 2B & 5B merged and became 10B).

3.0 What are the aims of the scheme?

The scheme aims to:

- keep a record of workers in the fencing industry who have achieved a recognised level of competence
- raise health and safety standards thus reduce risks and accidents throughout the industry
- encourage fencing, construction, and all other related industries and their customers to use skilled workers
- provide certification for UK workers that could be accepted throughout Europe through agreements with other European national schemes to mutually recognise qualifications
- promote and include as appropriate National Highways Sector Schemes
- ensure that workers have access to a recognised card scheme to be able to access employment
- review and continually improve the skills and competencies of personnel employed in the fencing industry

4.0 What are the benefits of the scheme?

The scheme provides the following benefits to individuals:

- recognition of skills, competence and qualifications
- improved health and safety awareness
- improved employment prospects

A range of cards are available in relation to occupational categories (see section 9.0). Scheme membership is confirmed through the issue of a competence card. Additionally, the scheme provides assurance to employers that labourers, installers, supervisors and managers are health and safety trained and qualified.

5.0 Who manages/oversees the scheme?

The scheme is managed by Lantra and complies with the governments new Construction Leadership Council strategy 2025 to provide a common, recognisable logo (CSCS) on all skills registration cards. A committee regulates the administration of the scheme. The committee comprises stakeholders from the industry and currently includes representation from the following:

- Lantra
- Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS)
- Association of Fencing Industries (AFI)
- Highways England

Note FCA & EFIA have merged and became Association of Fencing Industries (AFI).

6.0 Administration of the scheme

Lantra administers the FISS/CSCS scheme on behalf of the fencing industry.

Applicants send evidence of achievement to Lantra who check that the application is complete. Once validated Lantra will process the application so that a Smartcard can be produced and sent to the applicant.

The charge for each application is £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing) and this fee is for the actual application. Fees will be banked at the start of the application process. Applicants will be contacted if the application is incomplete and requested to provide all supporting evidence within 90 days. Any supporting evidence submitted after 90 days will be subject to an additional application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing).

7.0 What is CSCS role in FISS/CSCS?

CSCS is represented on the FISS/CSCS management committee to ensure consistency for the fencing industry.

CSCS ensure that fencing enquiries are directed to Lantra.

CSCS administers the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test.

8.0 What are the Health and Safety training and test requirements for FISS/CSCS?

See Appendix A for information.

9.0 What training in fencing does Lantra offer?

Lantra provides, through its network of approved training providers, training in the installation of fences for General Fencing and VRS, which underpins the Diploma in Fencing Level 2.

Lantra offers through its approved centres the following qualifications:

- Lantra Awards Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF) 601/1222/0
- Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – General Fencing (QCF) 600/6521/7
- Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – Fencing Vehicle Safety (QCF) for Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) 600/6521/7
- Lantra Awards Level 3 Diploma in Work-based Fencing (QCF) 600/6640/4
- Lantra Awards Level 5 Diploma in the Principles of Leadership and Management in Land based Settings (QCF) 600/7844/3

Contact Lantra for a current list of Fencing Diploma/SVQ approved assessment centres.

10.0 What cards are available via the FISS/CSCS scheme?

All installers and operatives must hold a FISS/CSCS card stating their registered category:

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| • Green Card | - | VRS Labourer/Labourer |
| • Red Card | - | Trainee |
| • Red Card | - | Experienced Worker (To be introduced in the future) |
| • Red Card | - | Apprentice (To be introduced in the future) |
| • Blue Card | - | Skilled Installer |
| • Gold Card | - | Supervisory Level |
| • Black Card | - | Management Level |

10.1 Green Card (VRS Labourer/ Labourer)

10.1.1 Who Is this for?

Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) and/or Site Work

The VRS labourer/labourer card is for labourers employed in vehicle restraint systems (VRS) and site work, supervised by a competent skilled person. (Note: VRS includes safety fencing and parapet fencing).

General Fencing, Environmental Barriers and/or Site Work

The labourer only card is for labourers employed in general fencing, environmental barriers and site work, supervised by a competent skilled person.

10.1.2 How is this achieved?

Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS)

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete the NHSS 10B VRS Foundation Course and test (Permanent VRS only) * (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete Lantra Awards Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF) 601/1222/0 for equivalents see <http://www.cscs.uk.com/applying-for-cards/green-card-changes/card-typelabourer/>

*Without successfully completing the VRS Foundation Course, a card stating Labourer only will be issued.

General Fencing, Environmental Barriers and/or Site Work

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete Lantra Awards Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF) 601/1222/0 for equivalents see <http://www.cscs.uk.com/applying-for-cards/green-card-changes/card-typelabourer/>

10.1.3 How long is this valid for?

The card is valid for five years. The card is renewable upon application, providing the renewal requirements are met (see 10.1.5).

10.1.4 How do I apply for the Green Card (initial application)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B. Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years of initial application)
- If applicable the VRS NHSS 10B Foundation Course – certificate of training (see 10.1.2) (within two years of initial application)
- Copy of certificate for Lantra Awards Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF) 601/1222/0, or equivalents see link <http://www.cscs.uk.com/applying-for-cards/green-card-changes/card-type/ labourer/>
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form – <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

10.1.5 How do I renew my Green Card?

Vehicle Restraint Systems and/or Site Work

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Successfully complete the NHSS 10B VRS Foundation Course and test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Health and Safety:
 - If not achieved prior to renewing skills card, must successfully complete Lantra Awards Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF) 601/1222/0 or equivalent **or**:
 - Where the appropriate Level 1 Qualification is already held, and is achieved more than 2 years prior to application, the applicant must successfully complete the Lantra Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing training course [AHAS003] (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)

Note: see section 11.1 for renewal criteria.

General Fencing, Environmental Barriers and/or Site Work

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Health and Safety:
 - If not achieved prior to renewing skills card, must successfully complete Lantra Awards Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF) 601/1222/0 or equivalent **or**:
 - Where the appropriate Level 1 Qualification is already held, and is achieved more than 2 years prior to application, the applicant must successfully complete the Lantra Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing training course [AHAS003] (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)

Note: see section 11.1 for renewal criteria.

10.1.6 How do I apply for the Green Card (renewal)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B. Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Applicable to VRS Labourer the VRS NHSS 10B Foundation Course – certificate of training (see 10.1.2) (within two years prior to renewal) *
- Copy of certificate for Lantra Awards Level 1 Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment (QCF) 601/1222/0, or equivalents see link <http://www.cscs.uk.com/applying-for-cards/green-card-changes/card-type/worker/>
- Copy of the certificate for Lantra Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing training course [AHAS003] (within two years prior to renewal) *
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form – <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

Important note: * (applicable to 10.1.5) In the case of renewals the VRS NHSS 10B Foundation course and the Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course maybe combined.

10.2 Red Card (Trainee)

10.2.1 Who is this for?

This card is for the trainee fence installer (general) or trainee fence installer (VRS) or trainee fencing supervisor or trainee fencing manager. It acts as an identification card during on-site training periods and shows that the holder has registered for the relevant Diploma/SVQ but has not yet achieved it.

10.2.2 How is this achieved?

- Pass the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test at the appropriate level (within two years prior to application)
- **Applicants for the VRS Trainee Red Card only** must successfully complete the NHSS 10B VRS Foundation course (within two years prior to application)
- Successfully complete the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing Course (those registered on level 2) or Site Supervisor Safety Training Scheme (SSSTS) or Site Management Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) course for Supervisors and Managers (those registered on level 3 or 5) or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to application)
- Register and be working towards achieving the appropriate Lantra Awards Qualification - see section 9.0

Note 1: The VRS will only be shown on a blue skills registration card once the qualification has been achieved - it will not appear on the red trainee skills registration card.

10.2.3 How long is this valid for?

Red cards expire five years from date of issue and cannot be renewed.

The card is issued while a trainee is working towards a Diploma or SVQ and it is expected that this will be replaced by a skilled card once the qualification has been achieved.

10.2.4 How do I apply for the Red Trainee Card?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B. Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test at the appropriate level (within 2 years prior to application)
- Copy of certificate for Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course or Site Supervisor Safety Training Scheme (SSSTS) or Site Management Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) for Supervisors and Managers or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to application)
- Proof of registration to the appropriate Lantra Awards Qualification - see section 9.0
- **Applicants for the VRS Installer Trainee Red Card only** – Copy of the NHSS 10B VRS Foundation course certificate of training (within two years prior to application)
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form - <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

10.3 Red Card (Experienced Worker)

To be introduced in the future.

10.3.1 Who is this for?

This card is for the experienced fence installer (general) or experienced fence installer (VRS) or experienced worker fencing supervisor or experienced worker fencing manager. It acts as an identification card during on-site training periods and shows that the holder has registered for the relevant Diploma/SVQ but has not yet achieved it.

10.4 Red Card (Apprenticeship)

To be introduced in the future.

10.4.1 Who is this for?

This card is for the apprentice fence installer (general) or apprentice fence installer (VRS). It acts as an identification card during on-site training periods and shows that the holder has registered for the relevant Diploma/SVQ via the apprenticeship route but has not yet achieved it.

10.5 Blue Card (Skilled Installer)

10.5.1 Who is this for?

This card is for skilled installers.

Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS)

The VRS installer card is for skilled installers employed in the vehicle restraint systems (VRS) industry (Note: VRS includes safety fencing and parapet fencing).

General Fencing, Environmental Barriers

The general fencing installer card is for skilled installers employed in general fencing and environmental barrier industry.

Construction Related Occupations (CRO)

This card was available to operatives working in construction related occupations not covered by other FISS/CSCS cards. CRO cards expire on 30th September 2017 and are not re-newable. Operatives are expected to register for a nationally recognised construction related qualification or equivalent before the card expires.

Occupations currently identified as FISS/CSCS CRO trades are:

- Automated Gate Installer
- Automated Barrier Installer
- Electric Security Fence Installer

10.5.2 How is this achieved?

Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS)

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully Complete the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete the NHSS 10B VRS Foundation and VRS Installer Courses and tests (Permanent VRS only) (within two years prior to initial application)
- Have current and valid training for each proprietary system type they wish to install (for systems they are not qualified to install, they can only work as a labourer)
- Successfully complete Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – VRS route 600/6521/7

General Fencing, Environmental Barriers

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to application)
- Successfully complete Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – General Fencing (QCF) 600/6521/7

Construction Related Occupations (CRO)

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete accredited manufacturers training recognised and registered by Lantra

Important Note 1: The vehicle restraint systems will only be registered on the blue skills card once the card is received by the applicant.

10.5.3 How long is this valid for?

Blue cards expire five years from date of issue. The card is renewable upon application, providing the renewal requirements are met.

10.5.4 How do I apply for the Blue Card (initial application)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in Appendix B. Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to initial application)
- Copy of certificate for Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – General/Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) routes or appropriate certificate for CRO route see 10.3.2
- Copy of certificate for the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to application)
- **VRS route only**
 - Copies of the NHSS 10B VRS Foundation and VRS Installer Course certificates (within two years prior to initial application) and
 - Current and valid training certificates for each proprietary system type they wish to install (for systems they are not qualified to install, they can only work as a labourer)

- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form - <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

10.5.5 How do I renew my Blue Card?

Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS)

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Successfully Complete the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)
- Successfully complete the VRS NHSS 10B Installer Course and test (Permanent VRS only) (within two years prior to renewal) *
- Current and valid training certificates for each proprietary system type (for systems you are not qualified to install, you can only work as a labourer)
- Already have achieved the Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – VRS route 600/6521/7 **or**
Industry Accreditation Route (IA) (Grandfather Rights) – Up until 2020 anyone holding a FISS / CSCS card through the IA route can continue to renew their cards

Important Note 2: * The above applies if the applicant renews their card before the expiry date. In the event of an applicant’s card expiring they will need to re-sit the foundation course as well as the installer course (within two years of renewal) (see section 11.1 for renewal criteria).

Important Note 3: IA cards **MUST** be renewed prior to expiry date. In the event of an IA card being allowed to lapse the applicant must complete the Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – VRS (QCF) 600/6521/7 to renew (see section 11.1 for renewal criteria).

General Fencing, Environmental Barriers

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Successfully complete the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS 003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)
- Already have achieved the Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – General Fencing (QCF) 600/6521/7 **or**
Industry Accreditation Route (IA) (Grandfather Rights) – Up until 2020 anyone holding a FISS / CSCS card through the IA route can continue to renew their cards

Important Note 4: IA cards **MUST** be renewed prior to the expiry date. In the event of an IA card being allowed to lapse the applicant must complete the Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – General Fencing (QCF) 600/6521/7 to renew (see section 11.1 for renewal criteria).

Construction Related Occupations (CRO)

- Pass the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Successfully Complete the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)
- Successfully complete accredited manufacturers training recognised and registered by Lantra

10.5.6 How do I apply for the Blue Card (renewal)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B.

Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the Operative CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal)
- Copy of certificate for Lantra Awards Level 2 Diploma in Work-based Fencing – General/Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) routes or appropriate certificate for CRO route see 10.3.2 or
Industry Accreditation Route (IA) (Grandfather Rights) – Up until 2020 anyone holding a FISS / CSCS card through the IA route can continue to renew their cards
- Copy of certificate for the Lantra Awards Health, Safety and Environmental Awareness: Fencing course AHAS003 or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)
- **VRS route only**
 - Copies of the NHSS NHSS10B VRS Foundation and VRS Installer Course certificates (within two years prior to renewal) and
 - Current and valid training certificates for each proprietary system type they wish to install (for systems they are not qualified to install, they can only work as a labourer)
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form - <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

10.6 Gold Card (Supervisor)

10.6.1 Who is this for?

VRS Fencing Supervisor Level 3 (Permanent)

A person who has completed the level 3 fencing qualification and the appropriate modular training course(s) for the type of vehicle restraint system they will be supervising.

General Fencing Supervisor

A person who has completed the level 3 fencing qualification.

For Information: A qualification is currently under development for Contract Supervisors.

Important Note 1: The Gold Card does not permit installation activities (including appointment as an installer) unless the requirements for the Blue skills card are also met and maintained (will be added to the Gold Card as applicable).

Important Note 2: The Gold Card does not permit managerial activities (including appointment as an installer) unless the requirements for the Black skills card are also met and maintained (will be added to the Gold Card as applicable).

10.6.2 How is this achieved?

- Pass the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test – **Supervisor** (within two years prior to initial application)
- Successfully complete the Lantra Awards Level 3 Diploma in Work-based Fencing (QCF) 600/6640/4
- Successfully complete the Site Supervisors Safety Training Scheme (SSSTS) or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to initial application)
- **VRS Route only** – the supervisor must complete the appropriate modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be supervising

Important Note 3: Where appropriate applicants who also meet the Blue FISS/CSCS skills card requirements can have these added to their Gold Supervisor’s card see 10.3 for criteria.

10.6.3 How long is this valid for?

Gold cards expire five years from date of issue. The card is renewable upon application, providing the renewal requirements are met.

10.6.4 How do I apply for the Gold Card (initial application)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B.

Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test within (two years prior to initial application) – **Supervisor**
- Copy of the Certificate for the Lantra Awards Level 3 Diploma in Work-based Fencing (QCF) 600/6640/4
- Copy of the certificate for the Site Supervisors Safety Training Scheme (SSSTS) training course or equivalent (see Appendix A) (two years prior to initial application)
- **VRS Route only** – evidence of completing and maintaining the appropriate modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be supervising
- As appropriate provide evidence of meeting Blue FISS/CSCS skills card criteria
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form - <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

10.6.5 How do I renew the Gold Card

- Pass the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test (within two years prior to renewal) – **Supervisor**
- Already have achieved the Lantra Awards Level 3 Diploma in Work-based Fencing (QCF) 600/6640/4
or Industry Accreditation Route (IA) (Grandfather Rights) – Up until 2020 anyone holding a FISS / CSCS card through the IA route can continue to renew their cards *
- Successfully complete Site Supervisors Safety Training Scheme (SSSTS) **refresher training** or equivalent (see Appendix A) (two years prior to the renewal)
- **VRS Route only** – successfully complete and maintain the appropriate modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be supervising
- As appropriate - meet Blue FISS/CSCS skills card criteria

Important Note 4: *IA cards MUST be renewed prior to the expiry date. In the event of an IA card being allowed to lapse the applicant must complete the Lantra Awards Level 3 Diploma in Work-based Fencing (QCF) 600/6640/4 to renew (see section 11.1 for renewal criteria).

10.6.6 How do I apply for the Gold Card (renewal)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B.

Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test within (two years prior to renewal) – **Supervisor**
- Copy of the Certificate for the Lantra Awards Level 3 Diploma in Work-based Fencing (QCF) 600/6640/4
or Industry Accreditation Route (IA) (Grandfather Rights) – Up until 2020 anyone holding a FISS / CSCS card through the IA route can continue to renew their cards

- Copy of certificate for the refresher Site Supervisors Safety Training Scheme (SSSTS) training course or equivalent (see Appendix A) (two years prior to renewal)
- **VRS Route only** – evidence of completing and maintaining the appropriate modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be supervising
- As appropriate provide evidence of meeting the Blue FISS/CSCS skills card criteria
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form - <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

10.7 Black Card (Manager)

10.7.1 Who is this for?

VRS Contract Manager

A person who has achieved the level 5 fencing qualification. It is also recommended that the person undertakes the appropriate VRS module training course(s) for the type of VRS being installed by their organization.

General Fencing Contract Manager

A person who has achieved the level 5 fencing qualification.

Important Note 1: The Contract Manager is responsible for the overall management of the fencing installation and not the definitive Installation (i.e. not installer) which could include site visits.

VRS Senior Executive/Owner/Director

A person who has achieved the level 5 fencing qualification. It is also recommended that the person undertakes the appropriate VRS module training course(s) for the type of VRS being installed by their organization. (If they do it is attendance only).

General Fencing Senior Executive/Owner/Director

A person who has achieved the level 5 fencing qualification.

Important Note 2: The Senior Executive/Owner/Director does not visit site (unless attending a meeting).

Important Note 3: The Black Card does not permit installation activities (including appointment as an installer) unless the requirements for the Blue skills card are also met and maintained

10.7.2 How is this achieved?

- Pass the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test - **Manager and Professional (MAP)** (within two years prior to application)
- Already hold the NVQ/SVQ in Fencing Business Management at Level 4 or achieve Lantra Awards Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management
- Successfully complete the Site Management Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to application)
- **VRS Route only** – it is recommended that the manager completes the appropriate modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be managing

Note: Where appropriate applicants who also meet the Blue FISS/CSCS skills card requirements these can be added to the manager's card see 10.3 for criteria.

10.7.3 How long is this valid for?

Black cards expire five years from date of issue. The card is renewable upon application, providing the renewal requirements are met.

10.7.4 How do I apply for the Black Card (Initial Application)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B.

Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the applicant has passed the CITB Health Safety and Environment "Touch Screen" Test - **Manager and Professional (MAP)** (within two years prior to initial application)
- Copy of the certificate for the NVQ/SVQ in Fencing Business Management at Level 4 or Lantra Awards Level 5 Diploma in the Principles of Leadership and Management in Landbased Settings (QCF) 600/7844/3
- Copy of the certificate for the Site Management Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) training course or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to initial application)
- **VRS Route only** – As appropriate evidence of completing and maintaining the relevant modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be managing
- As appropriate provide evidence of meeting the Blue FISS/CSCS skills card criteria
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form - <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

10.7.5 How do I renew the Black Card?

- Pass the CITB Health Safety and Environment "Touch Screen" Test - Manager and Professional (MAP) (within two years prior to renewal)
Have already achieved the NVQ/SVQ in Fencing Business Management at Level 4 or Lantra Awards Level 5 Diploma in the Principles of Leadership and Management in Landbased Settings (QCF) 600/7844/3 **or**
Industry Accreditation Route (IA) (Grandfather Rights) – Up until 2020 anyone holding a FISS / CSCS card through the IA route can continue to renew their cards *
- Successfully complete the refresher course for the Site Management Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) training course or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)
- **VRS Route only** – As appropriate complete and maintain the relevant modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be managing
- As appropriate meet the Blue FISS/CSCS skills card criteria

Important Note 3: *IA cards MUST be renewed prior to the expiry date. In the event of an IA card being allowed to lapse the applicant must complete the Lantra Awards Level 5 Diploma in the Principles of Leadership and Management in Landbased Settings (QCF) 600/7844/3 to renew (see section 11.1 for renewal criteria).

10.7.6 How do I apply for the Black Card (renewal)?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS Smart card download and submit the Application form in appendix B.

Applications must include:

- Letter confirming that the candidate has passed the CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test - **Manager and Professional (MAP)** (within two years prior to renewal)
Copy of the certificate for the NVQ/SVQ in Fencing Business Management at Level 4 or Lantra Awards Level 5 Diploma in the Principles of Leadership and Management in Landbased Settings (QCF) 600/7844/3 **or**
Industry Accreditation Route (IA) (Grandfather Rights) – Up until 2020 anyone holding a FISS / CSCS card through the IA route can continue to renew their cards *
- Copy of the certificate for the Site Management Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) refresher training course or equivalent (see Appendix A) (within two years prior to renewal)
- **VRS Route only** – As appropriate evidence of completing and maintaining the relevant modular training courses for each vehicle restraint system they will be managing
- As appropriate provide evidence of meeting the Blue FISS/CSCS skills card criteria
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form - <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

Important Note 4: The Level 4 NVQ/SVQ in Fencing Business Management is no longer available however the applicant may have achieved this qualification in the past and will be able to use this to apply (as a qualification is valid for life).

10.8 CRO White Card

The withdrawal of the CRO white card is a practical step towards achieving the Construction Leadership Council's (CLC) requirement of ensuring nationally recognised qualifications are in place for all occupations. By certifying workers have the correct training and qualifications FISS/CSCS can play its part in improving standards and safety on UK construction sites.

For alternatives see Blue FISS/CSCS Skills Card.

11.0 How will my application be processed?

Applications received will be managed by the Lantra administration team. Any errors identified in the application paperwork will result in the paperwork being returned and the applicant will have 90 days in which to rectify the error(s) and return the paperwork to Lantra.

Note: The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing) is non-refundable. This will be banked by Lantra at the start of the card application process at which time the 90 days will commence.

11.1 How do I renew my card?

Cards must be renewed before the expiry date. To renew, card holders must apply providing evidence of qualifications for each card as shown in section 9.

There is a six-month period of grace after the FISS/CSCS card has expired for the holder to renew it. After this time the cardholder ceases to meet the FISS/CSCS requirements of the scheme.

Applications received within the timeframe noted above will be processed. Any errors identified in the application paperwork will result in the paperwork being returned and the applicant will have 90 days in which to rectify the error(s) and return the paperwork to Lantra.

The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing) is non-refundable. This will be banked by Lantra at the start of the card renewal process at which time the 90 days will commence.

Under exceptional circumstances an appeal may be made. All appeals should be made in writing directly to the Chair of the FISS/CSCS committee at Lantra. See appeals section below.

11.2 What is the application process?

To apply for a FISS/CSCS card, the training/qualification requirements detailed in sections 9 and 10 against each card must be met and forwarded to Lantra together with the following:

- The completed Application Form. The link to the form is available in Appendix B
- Copies of the documents requested on the form (**note:** certificates or apprenticeship papers should be for the occupation(s) applied for). If they are not enclosed, they will not be put on the card
- One good quality passport size photo with a light background fixed in the box in Section A of the form – <https://www.gov.uk/photos-for-passports>
- The card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing)

The application form will be checked and processed by Lantra. If the application has not been completed correctly, or additional information is required, the application form will be returned with a request for further information. The applicant will have 90 days in which to remedy the error, after which a further fee will be required.

12.0 Can my card be withdrawn?

The card remains the property of Lantra. The card is issued to and should be kept by the named cardholder. Lantra, in liaison with the FISS/CSCS Committee, reserves the right to withdraw a card.

13.0 How do I complain or appeal against decisions?

If there is a dispute, under exceptional circumstances, the matter should be provided in writing to Lantra. Disputes that Lantra cannot resolve will be referred to the FISS/CSCS Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Mandatory documents for appeals:

- An up to date copy of your Curriculum Vitae (CV) i.e. a full work history and details of qualifications you may have achieved
- Testimonial from your current and/or previous employer. If you are self-employed and do not have a previous employer, please include a testimonial from a person/company that has contracted or sub-contracted work to you
- Card history
- A copy of relevant Health & Safety training
- A copy of your CITB Constructions Skills Health, Safety & Environmental test pass confirmation letter
- A detailed letter, with supporting evidence where relevant, explaining the circumstances that prevented you from applying for renewal at the time of expiry of your previous card
- A cheque for £50 plus VAT (current fee at the time of writing) to process the appeal (non-refundable) – see additional notes below

If your Appeal is upheld, you will need to send in your application form with all supporting paperwork and a card application fee of £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing).

14.0 What if I lose my card?

Lost cards can be replaced. Apply in writing or email to Lantra to order a replacement card. Applications are priced at £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing).

Email to sector.schemes@lantra.co.uk with the following information:

- Name
- Date of Birth
- National Insurance Number
- FISS/CSCS Registration Number (if available)

15.0 What is the cost of a FISS/CSCS card application?

All FISS/CSCS applications are priced at £30 Inc. VAT (current fee at the time of writing).

16.0 Is my personal information retained?

Lantra retain achievement records for the purposes of producing cards and certificates.

17.0 What if a fraudulent card is suspected?

If anyone is presented with what they suspect to be a fraudulent FISS/CSCS card, they should contact Lantra at sector.schemes@lantra.co.uk.

18.0 How do I read a smart card?

Use a card reader, mobile phone or tablet device with the 'Go Smart' software installed. Download the app from the following link: <https://download.cscsreader.co.uk/>

Appendix A - accepted health and safety training courses for all cards

With an increasing demand for construction projects, it is essential that the fencing industry knows what skills are required and when and where they will be needed. A comprehensive training and qualifications structure capable of delivering the necessary skills together with an integrated relationship between the education system and employers is critical.

The FISS/CSCS committee recommends that the fencing industry works to the Build UK training standard. This will ensure that the outcome of construction training and qualifications delivered by or on behalf of the industry meets the needs of employers and that sufficient employment and apprenticeship opportunities are available to maintain a skilled and professional workforce.

Build UK's Training Standard ensures those working on site have the correct card for their construction occupation. It also includes Partner Card Scheme Information, Additional Training Cards that can be used alongside the CSCS card and equivalent Health and Safety Training Requirements for each level of card.

To access the training standard please use the following link: <https://builduk.org/issues/training-skills/> And download the training standard which is pinned to the page (by using the live link provided this will ensure you are always working to the latest version).

Important Note: Please ensure when selecting equivalent courses from the training standard it is either 2 Lantra health and safety courses or the generic health and safety courses, **not** the specialist courses i.e. asbestos.

Green Card Only

Alternative qualifications accepted in place of the Lantra Awards Qualification Level 1 in Health, Safety and Environmental in a Construction Environment 601/1222/0, **at** initial registration only can be found on the CSCS website <https://www.cscs.uk.com/card-finder/> and entering Labourer into the "search by occupation" tool.

In order to read a smart card, you will need to use a card reader, mobile phone or tablet device with the 'Go Smart' software installed. Download the app from the following link: <https://download.cscsreader.co.uk/>

Your form will be returned to you if your health and safety does not comply with these rules

Appendix B - FISS/CSCS Card application form

A FISS/CSCS Application Form will be available to download at
<http://www.lantra.co.uk/nhss/fisscscs>

Appendix C - CITB Health Safety and Environment “Touch Screen” Test information

All applicants must pass an independent test of retained knowledge at the appropriate level
<http://www.cscs.uk.com/applying-for-cards/health-and-safety-test/>

The test shall be designed to examine the knowledge of the individual across a sample of the outline of knowledge requirements and competence objectives listed below: It shall consist of a multi-choice question test of 35 drawn from a bank of not less than 400 questions, agreed with Construction Skills Certification Scheme Ltd, the bank being made available to the examinee. The test shall be moderated by an External Examiner approved by Construction Skills Certification Scheme Ltd.

Outline of Knowledge Requirements

CSCS helps raise standards across the industry. It also ensures that workers meet a minimum level of health, safety and environmental awareness before going on site.

To this effect all applicants must take and pass an independent assessment of basic retained knowledge and understanding. This is so that work on a construction site is carried out safely and without risk to health, through the worker transferring their knowledge into appropriate behaviour on site and through working in partnership with site management.

It is understood and accepted that many applicants will have expertise or qualifications at higher or superior level to this assessment; however, the requirement remains across all applicants to demonstrate their knowledge at this fundamental level.

1.0 Law

1.1 Basic knowledge of the Health and Safety at Work etc., Act, Regulations, Approved Codes of Practice and Guidance with specific relevance to construction work;

1.2 Basic knowledge of the responsibilities of contractors (in control of work sites) sub-contractors and other employers to their workers and others;

1.3 Basic knowledge of the responsibilities of workers to themselves and others;

1.4 Basic knowledge of how the applicable Regulations and responsibilities they define affect the work carried out.

2.0 Consultation

2.1 Basic knowledge of the arrangements for the consultation of workers by employers on the arrangement for health and safety.

3.0 Enforcement

3.1 Basic knowledge of how health and safety law is enforced;

3.2 Basic knowledge of the powers of Health and Safety Executive (HSE) inspectors.

4.0 Methodology

4.1 Basic knowledge of the basic approach to Health and Safety management based on HSE Guidance *Successful Health and Safety Management*, specifically the role of Police, Organisation, Planning, Implementation, Checking and Review;

4.2 Basic knowledge of the importance and methods for risk assessment;

4.3 Basic Knowledge of the importance and methods for site inspections;

4.4 Basic knowledge of the hierarchy of control measure;

4.5 Basic knowledge of what to do in the event of an accident or other emergency;

4.6 Basic knowledge of the importance of incident and accident investigation and corrective action.

5.0 High Risks

5.1 Basic knowledge of the major risks in construction work, including; falls from height (people and objects), musculoskeletal problems, mobile site equipment, asbestos, noise, vibration and dermatitis;

5.2 Basic knowledge of precautions employed to deal with major risks and prevent accidents and ill health, including the importance of site set-up and tidiness, equipment use and maintenance, hygiene facilities and personal hygiene.

6.0 Specific Topic Areas

6.1 Basic practical knowledge of the risks and precautions on site associated with;

- Hazardous substances including products, rat urine, soil contaminants;
- Manual handling;
- Working at height;
- Working with electricity;
- Using hand-held tools;
- Mobile plant and vehicles;
- Exposure to noise and vibration;
- Fire;
- Excavation and confined spaces;
- Using personal protective equipment;
- Understanding safety signs and signals;
- Using personal hygiene facilities.

7.0 Specific Topics for Specified Students

7.1 Special additional questions will be added when the examinee is working in a specified area of high risk.

8.0 Core Competence Learning Objectives

For each of the topic areas described in the knowledge requirements, the applicant should be able to;

8.1 Be aware of the particularly hazardous nature of construction sites and construction work and of the importance of remaining alert for personal safety and that of others;

8.2 Identify the primary hazards associated with construction work;

8.3 Understand the nature of the main risks arising from the hazards;

8.4 Appreciate the precautions to be taken for protection against the risks;

8.5 Appreciate the ways in which work should be conducted on site to minimise risks to others;

8.6 Understand the importance of recognising significant risks and of taking sensible action to put things right including, promptly reporting situations which may pose a danger to people on site on seeking advice;

8.7 Understand the scope of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 extending to all persons whether employers, employees, self-employed contractors etc.;

8.8 Understand the importance of the policies and procedures on site, and how personal work practices and work areas should be checked for risks and the appropriate precautions taken;

8.9 Be aware of emergency and contingency arrangement which could be implemented in the event of an incident or accident, and capable of participating in supporting such arrangements.

There is currently only one FISS/CSCS approved health and safety” touch screen” test that can be taken as no other allows the hologram to be shown on the card; this is the CITB-Construction Skills Construction Health and Safety Test (i) operative level (ii) supervisor and (iii) manager and professional (MAP) levels.

Appendix D – FISS/CSCS Example Cards

For those who work in the fencing industry you will need the cards shown through the link provided below and where applicable your company should be in scope to NHSS2A/C, NHSS10B as appropriate.

Note: NHSS2B and NHSS5B have been merged and will be operational as NHSS10B from January 2017.

<http://www.lantra.co.uk/nhss/fisscscs>

Appendix E – Flow Charts (routes to achieving cards)

A document which illustrates flow charts, providing the routes to achieving cards, is available as a guidance tool to download at <http://www.lantra.co.uk/nhss/fisscscs>



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Contact Lantra Awards on 02476 696996 for more information.

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