

CSCS LITE tests- an update

Changes to the CSCS testing system due to COVID-19

” staff who have only passed the LITE test may require additional supervision and/or training to ensure they are safe on site.”

CifA and Diggers' Forum have been made aware that some new starters are being refused employment due to not having CSCS cards, and because the test centres are currently closed, they cannot complete the test.

This is affecting construction workers as well so CSCS and CITB are aware of the situation and trying to put interim measures in place. Employers are able to download a version of the test developed by CITB for free (known as the LITE test <https://www.citb.co.uk/urgent-messages/>) and they can then test the knowledge of their employees on a temporary basis. It's then up to construction sites to accept that workers have passed the LITE test and that their employers can vouch for them. As the LITE test is backed by Build UK there isn't a good reason why it shouldn't be accepted but it is at the discretion of the person in charge of the construction site. CSCS have asked construction sites for understanding and leeway for those who have cards but are unable to renew them.

This information has been given to CifA Registered Organisations and we hope that, should job applicants be eligible for a card (Archaeology graduate or Accredited CifA member, or for new starters the apprentice/trainee cards) but are unable to get one at the moment because of the Covid situation, that they could take the LITE test through their employers - if otherwise a good candidate. This would be on the proviso that a full HSE test is booked once the test centres are open again.

It is also important that archaeological employers recognize that staff who have only passed the LITE test may require additional supervision and/or training to ensure they are safe on site. On-site supervisors should be made aware of those who are in this category.

Further information on this is available via the CifA website: <https://www.archaeologists.net/cscs>

