

UK PLUMBING, HEATING AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES REGISTRATION SCHEME

The two Joint Industry Boards for the Plumbing Industry in the UK have established a new joint body called the “**UK Plumbing, Heating and Mechanical Services Registration Scheme**” which brings together the existing two Grading and Registration Schemes administered by the **Joint Industry Board for Plumbing and Mechanical Services in England and Wales and the Scottish & Northern Ireland Joint Industry Board for the Plumbing Industry** which have operated since the early 1970s. With immediate effect new style registration cards will be introduced which have a common design other than the individual JIB logos. Cards issued by the new Scheme will continue to carry the CSCS logo confirming affiliation to the CSCS Scheme.

The aims and objectives of the new Scheme are to:

- Standardise the criteria and procedures for the issue of Plumbing JIB/CSCS Registration Cards in the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) to a common design.
- Introduce a common and mutually recognised Grading Structure based on N/SVQs.
- Promote Health & Safety awareness in the plumbing industry.

NEW SCHEME KEY POINTS:

NEW CARDS

With immediate effect new cards will be issued to operatives who apply for a JIB Registration and Grading Card. Current issue JIB cards will continue to be valid until their expected expiry date.

COMMON CARD DESIGN

The new JIB cards are to a common UK design, “blue” background logo for England and Wales and “Red” background logo for Scotland & Northern Ireland.

COMMON GRADING DEFINITIONS

Both Joint Industry Boards are bringing their grading definitions into line and there are now fewer differences between the two schemes - this process will continue.

NEW CSCS HEALTH & SAFETY TESTS FOR INDIVIDUALS

The Board has also decided to adopt new test arrangements for the CSCS Health and Safety Test which is required for the issue of a JIB Registration and Grading Card. With effect from 1 June 2009 a new JIB paper based health and safety test will be introduced by the Board which will replace the current Prometric Test which will cease to be valid for the issue of a JIB Registration and Grading Card from 1 November 2009. The Board believes that the new paper based test will offer more flexibility to employers as the test can be administered on employers’ premises at a time during business hours which best suits the firm’s workload and availability of employees.

There are two ways of accessing the new JIB Health & Safety Test.

1. Employers can apply to register suitable members of their staff to act as invigilators who can then conduct the tests on the employer’s own premises (or other suitable venue) at a time that suits the employer. These invigilators will need to apply to the JIB to become an approved invigilator – see application form attached. Once the system is operational invigilators will apply for the required number of tests and enclosing the appropriate fee. Test papers will be sent to the invigilator who can then conduct the tests at a suitable time but within 3 months of issue of the test papers. The invigilator will then return the test papers to the JIB to be

marked. The pass or fail result will be notified to the invigilator within three weeks of the JIB receiving the test papers in order for them to inform their candidates. If successful, the JIB will in due course issue a certificate, a congratulatory letter and a Plumbing JIB (CSCS) registration card.

2. Employers or sole traders who are unable or who do not wish to appoint their own invigilator to administer the test can select test dates and venues from a published list available from the JIB office or on the JIB website. These local venues will have their own invigilators conducting tests on the published dates. Candidates will be required to apply to the JIB in advance for a test on one of these dates and provide correct payment and candidate details. The candidate's individual and unique test paper will be sent to the pre selected test venue for the candidate to attend and complete on the selected date. The invigilator will return the test papers to the JIB to be marked. The pass or fail result will be returned to the individual candidate within three weeks of the JIB receiving the test papers. If successful, the JIB will in due course issue a certificate, a congratulatory letter and a Plumbing JIB (CSCS) registration card.

FEE STRUCTURE FOR NEW CARDS

The Board has agreed a new composite fee structure which sets out the fees payable by individuals sitting the H&S Test or applying for a JIB Registration and Grading Card. In all cases sitting a Health and Safety Test will lead to the issue of an appropriate JIB Registration Card.

GRADING & REGISTRATION FEE:

This fee will cover the issue of a JIB CSCS/CSR Registration Card including the JIB Health & Safety Test.

JIB PARTICIPANT/SNIPEF EMPLOYEES	£35 (per grading and test)
JIB AFFILIATE MEMBERS' EMPLOYEES (Local Authorities, Universities etc)	£50 (per grading and test)
NON JIB PARTICIPANT EMPLOYEES (firms eligible for SNIPEF/SNIJIB membership)	£50 (per grading and test)

In all cases payment of the appropriate fee must accompany the application for the JIB H&S test or Card.

APPRENTICE REGISTRATION AND COMPLETION FEE:

This fee will cover the initial JIB apprentice registration, health and safety test, JIB CSCS/CSR Apprentice Registration Card, Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship and issue of an individual's first JIB CSCS/CSR Plumber Registration and Grading Card.

JIB PARTICIPANT EMPLOYER FEE (Where in Scotland the apprentice is funded through SNIPEF Training Services this charge will be paid by SNIPEF Training Services Ltd. In Northern Ireland employers will be able to apply for a £40 CITB (NI) grant when the first CSCS JIB plumber card is obtained at the completion of the period of apprenticeship.)	£50 (per registration)
JIB AFFILIATE MEMBER FEE (Local Authorities, Universities etc)	£100 (per registration)
NON JIB PARTICIPANT FIRMS (firms eligible for SNIPEF/SNIJIB membership)	£150 (per registration)

In all cases payment of the appropriate fee must accompany the JIB Training agreement unless the apprentice is on the SNIPEF Training Services Manager training programme.

For more information please contact the JIB office on 0131 225 2255.