

Changes to the NCSO Program

The objective of the National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO) program is to combine formal training with the individual's personal field experience. Effective September 1, 2017, a new standard was put in place. This new standard aims to strengthen the NCSO designation, making it more credible while allowing ease of transferability amongst other provinces. The most recognizable change to the SCSA NCSO program will be the introduction of a written exam, nationally recognized by participating Canadian Federation of Safety Associations (CFCSA) members. The purpose of the exam is to verify a nationally recognized level of competency in relation to various construction-related health and safety management skills and principles.

The NCSO designation meets the national standard requirements and verifies that a person has met the training, practical application, years of experience and written performance measurements set out by the CFCSA. On September 1, 2017 all new registrants in the NCSO program will fall under the new standard. The SCSA would like to make it clear that current NCSO's and CSO's will not lose their NCSO status. They remain an NCSO but will be declared in-active. Those wishing to take the National Exam to achieve active status, are encouraged to do so within 2 years, as the SCSA will be grandfathering their experience until August 30th of 2019. Waiting longer than 2 years will

require them having to reapply to the program and provide new experience letters.

Active NCSO's will be identified through the new certificate which has a new logo and contains an expiry date. Included in the new standard are new course and maintenance requirements and a closed book final exam. For detailed information, please visit the <http://www.scsaonline.ca/ncso-updates>.

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