



nebosh

**NEBOSH Health and Safety Management for Construction (UK)
(December 2019 specification)**

**FAQs for Learners
Version 5**

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What's changed and why

Why has the syllabus been updated?

NEBOSH has reviewed the syllabus in line with the normal qualification development cycle. Following extensive research, the syllabus content, has been updated to provide learners with the knowledge, skills and understanding required in the modern workplace.

We developed the syllabus following wide consultation with key stakeholders, including Learning Partners, employers and past and present learners.

What are the differences between the November 2014 and December 2019 specifications?

The biggest changes to the specifications are:

- A new style syllabus guide that has been specifically designed for you.
- The syllabus wording is easier to understand; more direct and less formal.
- We have separated the assessment criteria from the learning outcomes.
- Overall reduction of 20 qualification hours (see table below).
- There will no longer be any shared units between the Health and Safety Management for Construction (UK) qualification (NC) and the Health and Safety Management for Construction (International) qualification (IC). Each qualification will be standalone.
- The content from the previous 17 elements of Units NGC1 and NCC2 has now been combined into 13 elements.

As the structure of the qualification has changed, there has been a change in the hours. The total qualification hours have decreased by 20. The November 2014 specification has a total of 133 qualification hours.

A break-down of the recommended taught, self-study and assessment hours is:

Taught hours: 68
Private study: 37
Assessment: 8
Total hours: 113

Has the grading structure for the qualification changed?

The grading will now be based only on the mark for the NC1 assessment. Once you have achieved a "Pass", your qualification will be grading using the following criteria:

Distinction: 75% or more
Credit: 65% - 74%
Pass: 45% - 64%



Has the assessment structure of the 2019 specification changed?

Yes. Elements 1 – 13 of the new syllabus will be assessed in its entirety by an open book examination (OBE). All of the information about the OBE, including a sample paper, can be found on the following webpage: <https://www.nebosh.org.uk/open-book-examinations/>.

This OBE will be marked by Examiners appointed by NEBOSH.

When is the first date that I can sit the December 2019 specification?

The first examination will be held on 22 – 24 July 2021.

Are qualifications gained under previous specifications of the National Construction Certificate still valid?

All qualifications gained under former specifications of the National Construction Certificates are still valid; there are no expiry dates for NEBOSH qualifications.

What are the assessment units for the new NC?

New learners taking their first assessments on or after the 22 July 2021 will be required to take the following assessments:

Unit NC1: Managing construction safely (Open Book Examination)



What do the changes mean for me?

What if I originally registered to sit the National Construction Certificate (November 2014 specification) and have not completed my overall qualification by 21 July 2023?

You will need to have passed all of your assessments by the declaration date for the final assessment date. If you have not you will not be awarded the National Certificate in Construction Health and Safety. If you still wish to achieve the NEBOSH Construction Certificate then you will need to study and register for the OBE assessment.

I am due to sit my National Construction Certificate examinations for the first time from 22 July 2021. How does this affect me?

If you are registering for your first unit assessment it is likely that you will be registered to the December 2019 specification. If you have already taken one or more unit assessments you will remain on the November 2014 specification. We will not be transferring learners between the old and new specifications. You will therefore remain on the November 2014 specification.

How do I know which specification I am studying?

An easy way to tell which specification you are on is to look at how many units, how long it is and how many elements in your course. If it is made up of 3 units (NGC1, NCC1, NCC2), is 3 weeks' long and has 17 elements, then it is the November 2014 specification. By contrast, the December 2019 specification has 1 unit (NC1), is 2 weeks long and has 13 elements.

If you are still unsure then speak to your Learning Partner.

I have achieved unit(s) from the November 2014 specification but need to take or resit unit(s) to complete the qualification. What will happen in these circumstances?

Existing learners will be allowed to take assessments for the November 2014 specification up to and including 21 July 2023. This should allow existing learners time to complete their NCC qualification.

If I have already achieved one unit from the National Construction Certificate (November 2014 specification) will this still be valid?

Yes. Please see the table on page 4 for details of the last registration dates for the November 2014 specification. If you have not completed your qualification by this time, you will need to take Unit NC1 of the new December 2019 specification if you still want to obtain the NCC qualification.



Do these changes affect me if I have already achieved the National Construction Certificate?

No. Your qualification continues to have the same status.

Can I use my successful unit NC1 unit towards the international construction qualification (IC)?

No. In the new NC (December 2019 specification) there will no longer be any shared units between NC and IC. Each qualification will be standalone.

Can I take the assessments in a language other than English?

Examinations for this qualification will be offered in English only.



Transitional arrangements

What are the timeframes?

The qualification will be assessed from 22 – 24 July 2021. The transitional timeframes are:

First teaching date for December 2019 specification from	1 May 2021
Last date that new learners can be registered to the November 2014 specification	30 September 2021
New learner registrations to December 2019 specification only from	1 October 2021
Last assessment date for the November 2014 specification	21 July 2023

How does NEBOSH define a ‘new learner’ and an ‘existing learner’?

A **new learner** is a person that has not been registered for an assessment of the November 2014 specification, ie they do not have a record in the NEBOSH systems against the NCC November 2014 specification.

An **existing learner** is a person that has been registered* for an assessment of the November 2014 specification. The status against the learner will show as “studying”, “absent”, “Pass” or “Refer”.

Can I take the 2019 specification assessment instead of the 2014 assessments?

Yes; but **only** if you have **not** already passed an NCC assessment (November 2014 specification). If you have started your studies, been marked as absent or received a ‘refer’ result, you can choose to take the assessment for the new qualification. However, NEBOSH will not be automatically transferring learners.

If you want to take the new assessment (and have not previously passed an NCC November 2014 specification unit), you will need to contact your Learning Partner to register you for the new unit assessment and pay the required registration fee.

Can I take unit passes over from the November 2014 to the December 2019 specification?

No. We will not be transferring learners between the old and new qualifications. You will therefore remain on the November 2014 specification.

In the new NC (December 2019 specification) there will no longer be any shared units between NC and IC. Each qualification will be standalone.



Fees / costs

Are the unit registration fees changing?

There has been a change to the registration fee structure. The fees are:

	Cost
Unit NC1 – Managing construction safely	£150*

* Fees taken from the 2020 Post December NEBOSH Fees List



Qualification level and recognition

Will the December 2019 specification of the Health and Safety Management for Construction (UK) be accredited by SQA?

Yes, it has been accredited and credit rated by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA; www.sqa.org.uk) at SCQF **Level 6** with **12 SCQF credit points** within the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF; www.scqf.org.uk).

In England the comparable rating to this is a Vocationally-Related Qualification (VRQ) at level 3 within the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF), or an A-Level standard.

The November 2014 specification accreditation end date is 30 September 2021.

Will I still be eligible for professional membership?

Professional bodies, such as IOSH, will continue to recognise the current specification of the National Construction Certificate for membership. We anticipate that the new qualification will also be accepted for Associate or Technical membership of IOSH.

The Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) have confirmed that they will recognise the revised qualification for the black 'Academically Qualified Person (AQP)' card.

If you require further information please contact NEBOSH's Customer Experience Team on +44 (0)116 263 4700 or via email at info@nebosh.org.uk.