

CICES CONSTRUCTION LAW CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYOR (CES)

CORE COMPETENCIES

MARCH 2025

CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYOR (CES) CORE COMPETENCIES – CONSTRUCTION LAW – 2025

The CES competencies are split into core and specialist competencies.

OPTIMUM STANDARDS

Each of the activities under the competencies must be signed off to a specific standard, indicated by one of the letters A, K, E or B. The definitions of these are given below.

A	Appreciation	A general awareness of the activity is required. This could be acquired by reading a magazine article or attending a CPD event.
K	Knowledge	This standard requires a more detailed level of knowledge understanding of the activity. This could be acquired by undertaking a training course or other type of study but not necessarily put into practice e.g. a subject area on a degree course.
E	Experience	To reach this standard the activity must have been performed independently or under supervision. This may be achieved by undertaking the activity in a work context over a period of time. Experience of the activity or subject should follow on and be additional to appreciation and knowledge in that subject area.
B	Ability	To be able, without supervision, to perform relevant functions and be able to supervise other less experienced staff. This may be evidenced by the undertaking of management roles or experience gained over time.



C Law Core 01	Competency		Law and Legal System for Construction Professionals				
Item	Optimum		Activity Detail	Date of Assessment			
	Technical	Member		A	K	E	B
A	K	K	Legal systems and sources of law such as common law and civil law				
B	K	E	Statute, Common Law, Custom, Conventions, Rules, Standards, Ethical Code of Conduct				
C	A	K	General application of various branches of law and legal rules in construction - Contract/Tort/Crime/Planning/Procurement				
D	K	E	Financial and Insurance Law for Construction Professionals				
E	A	E	Processes followed in avoidance mitigation or resolution in case there is any dispute - Litigation/ADR				

Name of Supervisor:	Name of Applicant:
Supervisor's Signature:	Date:



C Law Core 02	Competency		Commercial management and contract administration on civil engineering projects				
Item	Optimum		Activity Detail	Date of Assessment			
	Technical	Member		A	K	E	B
A	K	E	General Elements of the Law of Contract - formation, performance, breach, remedies				
B	K	E	Construction Contract Law for the Surveyors - Nature and use of Contract and its content				
C	K	E	Express/Implied Terms at common law and by Statutes				
D	K	E	Conditions/Warranties/In-nominate Terms and different consequences of their breach				
E	A	K	Employment legislation and its applicability to civil engineering works (e.g., Working Rule Agreement).				

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C Law Core 03	Competency		Contract structure, documentation and the bid process in civil engineering							
Item	Optimum		Activity Detail	Date of Assessment						
	Technical	Member		A	K	E	B			
A	K	E	Standard forms of contract, contract selection, how they deal with key provisions including the rights and obligations of the Parties, and the role of various personnel such as Client/Designer/Project Manager/Supervisor/Engineer etc.							
B	K	E	Determination of the scope of work through interpretation of the contract documents – contract provisions, specifications, drawing, schedules, technical data etc.							
C	K	E	The purposes of and differences between Preambles, Conditions, Pricing Schedules, Bills of Quantities, Activity Schedules and Schedules of Rates.							
D	K	E	Risk and opportunities identification, analysis and management.							
E	A	K	The preparation and interpretation of estimates and tender submissions.							

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C Law Core 04	Competency		The principles of law and their application within the context of civil engineering				
Item	Optimum		Activity Detail	Date of Assessment			
	Technical	Member		A	K	E	B
A	K	E	Laws of Health and Safety/Sustainability/ and Laws regarding Digital Delivery				
B	K	E	Statute law relevant to civil engineering works including consumer legislation and exclusion and limiting the liability.				
C	K	E	Advice on contractual matters at formation, drafting, at performance stage and contractual correspondence, including post completion.				
D	K	K	Dispute avoidance, mitigation and resolution – processes available and procedures that apply.				
E	K	E	Payment Laws/Terms, Insurance/Guarantee/Bonds/Liability to third Parties including clients and users				

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C Law Core 05	Competency		Planning and programme in the management of civil engineering works				
Item	Optimum		Activity Detail	Date of Assessment			
	Technical	Member		A	K	E	B
A	K	K	Various types of programmes used in civil engineering.				
B	K	K	Use of the programmes for planning and monitoring the works.				
C	K	E	Use of programmes for analysis and demonstration of delay and disruption and entitlement to extensions of time.				
D	K	E	Use of Programme to make claims and its relationship with records.				
E	K	E	Delay analysis methods, making delay claims – Extension of Time (EoT), Loss and Expenses, Damages				

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C Law Core 06	Competency		Techniques and technologies employed in civil engineering works							
Item	Optimum		Activity Detail	Date of Assessment						
	Technical	Member		A	K	E	B			
A	K	E	Breach at various stages of performance including before commencement at site, completion of works, commissioning and taking over, defects and rectification/correction, final payment and discharge.							
B	K	E	Establishing liability or entitlement under contract or tort for the parties and the professionals							
C	K	E	Analysing contract documents and prepare structured schedules for claims							
D	A	K	Use of information using verified technology is structured and derived form validated data							
C	K	K	Opinion evidence and Expert Reports the nature and obligation of the Expert.							

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