



Construction Project Manager

Alternate Title Construction Manager

Description Construction project managers are responsible for coordinating the construction of large building projects such as hotels, factories, office blocks, home unit developments, schools, hospitals and large housing developments. On a residential building site, the construction project manager is responsible for coordinating all aspects of the job.

Many construction project managers work in private organisations such as large construction and development companies or consultancies. Some are employed by government departments while others are self-employed.

Job prospects/Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities are available in the commercial, major construction, high rise and complex construction areas. Demand varies with the level of activity in the building industry.

The vacancy level for Construction project managers is moderate. Vacancies arising from job changing (Construction project managers changing employers) are expected to provide 55 per cent of vacancies, compared with 41 per cent from job openings (Construction project managers leaving the occupation) and 4 per cent from new jobs.

- Typical Duties**
- Interpret plans and estimate costs and quantities of materials needed;
 - Plan construction methods and procedures;
 - Coordinate the supply of labour and materials;
 - Supervise construction sites and direct site managers and subcontractors to make sure standards of building performance, quality, cost schedules and safety are maintained;
 - Study building contract documents and negotiate with building owners and subcontractors;
 - Control preparation of cost estimates and the documentation for contract bids;
 - Control payment to subcontractors by valuation of completed works;
 - Make sure that building regulations, standards and by-laws are enforced in building operations;
 - Consult with architects, engineers and other technical workers to make sure that design intentions are met.

Personal Requirements

- Well-developed communication skills
- Ability to interpret plans and drawings
- Management and leadership ability
- Problem-solving ability
- Able to manage and run a business enterprise

Entry Pathway There are two pathways to become a construction project manager in South Australia:

- **Practical experience pathway:** This would usually involve either
 - Completion of a related apprenticeship followed by a Certificate IV; or
 - Completion of a Certificate IV and extensive experience in the building industry.From here it is possible to gain entrance into one of the higher qualifications.
- **Academic pathway:** Study construction management at university, and then gain relevant practical experience to supplement the formal qualification.

Qualifications

The University of Adelaide

- Master of Building Science

University of South Australia - City East Campus

- Master of Building
- Bachelor of Construction Management and Economics (4 years full time or equivalent)

TAFE SA (Building & Furnishing)

- Advanced Diploma of Building Design and Project Administration
- Certificate IV in Building

To get into the course you usually need to pass your SACE. Prerequisite subjects, or assumed knowledge, in one or more of English and mathematics are normally required. Contact the university for further information as requirements may change.

Professional membership

Graduates with an appropriate building degree can join the Australian Institute of Building.

Some people may complete a pre-apprenticeship or pre-vocational course before entering an apprenticeship. If you are still at school, **doorways2construction™** is the best first step into this career. Ask your VET coordinator for more details.

Further Information

- CITB [www.citb.org.au]
- Construction Industry Skills Board [<http://www.constructionskills.com.au>]
- **doorways2construction™** [<http://www.doorways2construction.org.au/>]
- Australian Institute of Building (National Office) [<http://www.aib.org.au/>]
- Master Builders Australia SA [www.mbasasa.com.au]
- Housing Industry Association [www.hia.asn.au/]
- Big Plans [www.bigplans.com.au/]
- Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]