



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner

Fact Sheet Reaccreditation

Under the Australian Government Building and Construction OHS Accreditation Scheme (the Scheme), only accredited companies can contract for Government-funded building work over certain thresholds. Companies can become accredited for up to three years.

At the end of this period, companies need to reapply for accreditation in order to stay accredited under the Scheme – this is known as 'reaccreditation'.

Reaccreditation is an essential step for companies wanting to retain the benefits of being accredited, including improved OHS performance.

Any companies not intending to apply who are currently accredited should inform the Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner (OFSC).

What is reaccreditation?

Reaccreditation is a requirement of the *Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Accreditation Scheme) Regulations 2005* (the Regulations).

Getting reaccredited is a more streamlined process than accreditation and involves two phases: a desktop assessment and an onsite audit. These two phases are a requirement of the Regulations and are designed to help the Federal Safety Commissioner (FSC) make an informed decision.

For the **desktop assessment** component, companies need to provide a copy of their AS4801 certificate and submit an application against all Scheme criteria. Companies are also assessed on their past performance and this assessment then determines whether a company requires a one or two day **onsite audit**.

As part of the FSC's vision of a building and construction industry where no one is harmed, the OFSC will also use reaccreditation as an opportunity to highlight the need to effectively manage mobile plant and equipment. This hazard is one of the greatest causes of injury in the industry. Mobile plant and equipment will feature as a focus of the reaccreditation auditing process.

How can my company apply?

Companies can apply from **1 July 2009**, by:

- submitting an application through FSC Online on fsc.gov.au or
- submitting a postal application.

An Application Guide, including a user guide for FSC Online, will be available on fsc.gov.au.

Companies should apply for reaccreditation at least six months before their accreditation expiry date to reduce the risk of entering a period of non-accreditation.

If a company has not achieved reaccreditation at the time of their accreditation expiry date, they will be removed from the register of accredited companies. The OFSC will publish a list of expired companies already in the reaccreditation process on fsc.gov.au.

Supporting your application

It's important that companies provide all the necessary documentary evidence to support claims made in their application. The types of documentary evidence required will be outlined in the Application Guide available on fsc.gov.au.

For further information you can:

- refer to the FAQs on the FSC website at fsc.gov.au
- contact the FSC Assist Line on **1800 652 500**
- contact the OFSC via email at ofsc@deewr.gov.au

This fact sheet is correct as of 15 June 2009. Produced by the Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner.

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