

# Career Profile: Building Site Supervisor

Building Site Supervisors are responsible for keeping construction projects moving forward. They work on a tight timeline and note any challenges or potential problems. They run projects to exact standards while reporting to the Construction or Project Manager.

Building Site Supervisors may oversee several projects (usually in the residential sector) or be on one large project for the duration of the construction process (often in the commercial and engineering sector).

## What would my working day look like?

Some of the tasks you may complete are:

- ▶ Supervise, coordinate and schedule sub-contractors and materials to site
- ▶ Inspect work progress, equipment and materials used are up to standard
- ▶ Ensuring construction meets current plans, variations, and addenda for the project
- ▶ Provide technical support to office staff and suppliers
- ▶ Communicate with, clients, sub-contractors and managers
- ▶ Organise and manage a constantly changing workload
- ▶ Have a sound knowledge of all trades involved in the project you are supervising
- ▶ Work with Architects / Drafters, Project Planners, Estimators, Client Liaison Officers and Construction Managers to ensure their requirements are met
- ▶ Give direction and instructions to trades under your supervision
- ▶ Resolve disputes effectively and efficiently as they arise

## I might enjoy this job if:

- ▶ I like taking on and enjoy being in leadership roles
- ▶ I enjoy building things
- ▶ I am good at Maths, English, Design and Technology and manual studies such as woodwork
- ▶ I plan on completing a trades apprenticeship
- ▶ I like to start and complete projects, paying careful attention to detail and accuracy

## Working conditions and hours

Although you will be on the road most days working independently visiting multiple sites per day to monitor progress and to solve any issues that may arise, you will also be working as part of team to see the project through to completion.

You will work mostly outdoors and may have an office day once per week to complete any necessary paperwork or to attend meetings with client liaison officers, managers and other people working on the project. You will work full time (generally 40-50 hours per week).

## How do I become a Building Site Supervisor?

To be a Building Site Supervisor you usually need to have a white card, have completed an apprenticeship in a trades area and be working towards or have obtained a formal qualification in building or construction management. If you are still at school, you can enrol in the Certificate II in Building and Construction-Trades pathway to get started on a trade qualification.

Otherwise, you may like to complete a Certificate III trades qualification as an apprenticeship, which usually takes 36-48 months to complete and includes on the job training with an employer.

You will then need to complete the following qualifications:

Certificate IV	Diploma
Building and Construction – Building	Building and Construction - Building

## Future pathways and opportunities

You can work for some of the leading construction companies in the State or for some of the largest construction companies on residential or commercial projects. Once you have your foot in the door and a few years of experience behind you, you can work your way up to becoming a Senior Site Supervisor, Regional Manager or Construction Manager.

## Average Pay

Up to **\$1,838** per week

depending on your qualifications and experience.

(Source: Job Outlook)

## What skills and personal qualities do I need?

- ▶ Have excellent time management and organisational skills
- ▶ Enjoy working with other people and as part of a team
- ▶ Have good written and oral communication and interpersonal skills
- ▶ The ability to analyse and troubleshoot information
- ▶ Have strong maths and literacy skills
- ▶ Enjoy working outdoors and be physically fit for the physical demands of the job
- ▶ Have good active listening skills
- ▶ Being able to adapt to differing situations and work sites



## Next Steps

Further information can be found at:

- ▶ Australian Apprenticeship Pathways – [www.jobsandskills.wa.gov.au](http://www.jobsandskills.wa.gov.au)

- ▶ Australian Apprenticeship Support Network Providers – [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au)
- ▶ Job Outlook – [www.joboutlook.gov.au](http://www.joboutlook.gov.au)