

# Just the Job Information Sheet

**Job title** Scaffolder

## **Job description**

The main role of a scaffolder is to put up and take down scaffolding for building, painting, repairing, seating and industrial purposes.

They will also be able to perform some or all of the following:

- calculate scaffold loadings and decide what scaffolding platform to build
- check worksites for hazards
- unload scaffolding from trucks
- fit steel tubes and support braces together to form the scaffolding framework
- lay wooden boards (sole plates) on the ground to spread the weight of the scaffolding
- fasten ladders and guard rails to scaffolding
- take down the scaffolding and load it onto trucks
- check and maintain scaffolding equipment
- regularly inspect erected scaffolding for safety
- talk with clients and discuss their needs and requirements

## **Qualifications required**

There are no entry requirements, as long as you work under the supervision of a qualified scaffolder. Whilst in secondary school, subjects including Maths and English will give a good foundation going into scaffolding.

To become a qualified scaffolder, you must be working and training within the industry and work towards attaining a National Certificate in scaffolding through on-job work experience and block courses.

## **General requirements**

The personal requirements of a scaffolder are as follows:

- safety-conscious, careful, and responsible
- practical and accurate, with an eye for detail
- able to follow instructions
- able to work well in a team
- good at communicating
- organised

They also need to be fit, strong and agile with good balance and hand-eye co-ordination. Along with this, they must also be able to work at heights.

### **Training costs**

N/A – Trainees are paid during their training.

### **Career path**

Opportunities for scaffolders in New Zealand are improving with the recovery efforts from the Christchurch earthquakes in 2010 and 2011 and the construction phase which is now starting to take place.

It is particularly good for people who hold a scaffolding certificate, particularly at an advanced level.

Scaffolders are also in demand to work on offshore oil and gas platforms.

### **Salary range**

Scaffolders without a qualification: \$14 - \$16 per hour.

Qualified Scaffolders: \$16 - \$28 per hour.

### **How to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry**

To increase the chances of successfully entering the industry, at least one subject at NCEA Level 1 is useful. Gateway programmes offered to students from year 11 to 13 is also a good way to get started in the industry whilst still at school.

### **Other places to source information about this job**

[www.skills.org.nz](http://www.skills.org.nz)

[www.careers.govt.nz](http://www.careers.govt.nz)