# Construction Management - is it for me?

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Article published on December 5th 2011 | Business

A construction manager or supervisor, in simple terms, is responsible for running the whole or part of a construction site. He or she will make sure a scheme is completed safely, on time and within budget. They are also known as site or building manager.

Construction management typically includes multi-unit residential sites or commercial building sites, but not usually single-family residential building sites. Construction management of the site may be kept by a general contractor or a separate entity, and the construction management personnel or firm answers to the developer and is responsible for overseeing every facet of the project from commencement to end.

A manager on a small site might have full responsibility for the whole project. On bigger sites, you may be in charge of a special section and report to a senior site manager.

Construction management personnel can be responsible for overseeing each phase of construction and resolving any discrepancies in original blueprint design and actual implementation. Construction management personnel are likewise accountable for the cost of a project and must keep watch over material and labour cost. They often work in offices and on site and may have to work with one or more project managers, achitects and site-specific superintendents at the same time. In addition to overseeing the physical construction phases of a project, construction management must also be familiar with design and construction laws -- including OSHA regulations and building codes -- and serve as a point of contact for all issues. Equally important is delivering each phase of a project within a given time frame and budget.

The construction manager will guarantee safety measures have been put in place and he or she will often work with construction management software to organise efficient delivery and storage of construction material.

Finally, the work will involve keeping the client informed during construction. Lots of work is done outside on site.

Even though many construction workers have never needed qualifications before, the only way they are finding themselves untouched by the current financial crisis, is by having the qualifications to back up their experience.

There are specialist management construction courses available for all staff of specialist companies with any direct responsibility for supervising the carrying out of work on site plus site supervisors, contract supervisors, contract managers, project managers and sales engineers. These courses give a comprehensive practical review of sub contract provisions and look at documentation and procedures and other related legal and contractual aspects relevant to the work of specialist construction companies. They provide detailed briefing on key contractual aspects of supervising or managing work on site with particular emphasis on record keeping and good contractual "housekeeping".

Construction management firms vary in size, and some provide their services exclusively to smaller general contractors.  The earning potential for construction management can easily reach six figures with experience and reputation for effectively managing larger, multi-million dollar projects, although wages do vary by region. Enrol on a management construction course - it is the best way to increase your earning potential in today's financially unstable climate.

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Article Keywords:
construction management course

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