



Suffolk Joint
Construction
Committee

Professional Quantity Surveyor

Quantity surveying is a key area of the construction industry that combines good commercial awareness and first class management skills.

THE ROLE

As cost consultants and project procurement specialists, the QS's working life covers everything from cost and contract management to advising on procurement and financial implications of a project. QS's are involved from the project feasibility design to the completed project and settle financial and contractual disputes. A QS will usually work for either a main contractor or as a private consultant representing the client.

OPPORTUNITIES

Quantity surveyors understand the economics of construction market trends and the influences of the sector on a local and global scale. Wherever construction work is taking place there will be a need for financial control. Quantity surveyors meet this need.

SALARY EXPECTATIONS

Starting salaries for a university educated trainee QS are between £20,000 and £30,000 a year

A senior QS with several years experience can earn in the region of £30,000 and £45,000 a year

A qualified chartered QS can earn depending on experience £45,000 and £80,000 a year

CAREER PROGRESSION

TRAINEE
QUANTITY
SURVEYOR

GRADUATE
QUANTITY
SURVEYOR

QUANTITY
SURVEYOR

CHARTERED
QUANTITY
SURVEYOR

Professional Quantity Surveyor

ENTRY ROUTE

GCSEs and A-levels (A-C) in subjects including Science, Technology, English and particularly Maths would be helpful for a role as a quantity surveyor. An IT qualification would also be useful.

You need a degree or professional qualification accredited by the Royal Institution for Chartered Surveyors (RICS) to qualify as a chartered quantity surveyor.

Relevant subjects include:

- Surveying
- Construction
- Civil Engineering
- Structural Engineering

If you are already working in engineering or construction, you could take a part-time, distance learning postgraduate degree while working – many of RICS's accredited postgraduate degrees are available to study in this way. You could also take an HNC, HND or foundation degree in surveying then start work as a surveying technician. Once working, you could complete further study to qualify as a quantity surveyor.

You can find out more about careers and courses in surveying, by visiting the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) website.

TYPICAL TASKS FOR A PROFESSIONAL QUANTITY SURVEYOR:

- Preparation of contracts, including details regarding quantities of required materials
- On-going cost analysis of maintenance and repair work
- Feasibility studies of client requests
- Analysing completed work and arranging payment to contractors
- Allocating upcoming work to contractors
- Site visits, assessments and projections for future work

For more information on becoming a professional quantity surveyor visit:

www.rics.org

www.ciob.org

or talk to your local college

Your career journey starts here!

