

CAREERS IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Builder (Professional)

Professional builders are responsible for the overall time, cost and quality management of commercial buildings. They look after the materials, equipment and supervision of labour in the construction of buildings such as houses, factories, office blocks, schools, hospitals and large housing developments. Professional builders perform tasks including:

- ◆ planning construction methods and procedures;
- ◆ coordinating the supply of labour and materials;
- ◆ supervising construction sites and directing site managers and subcontractors to ensure standards of building performance, quality, cost schedules and safety are maintained;
- ◆ studying building contract documents and negotiating with building owners and subcontractors;
- ◆ controlling payment to subcontractors by valuation of completed works;
- ◆ ensuring that building regulations, standards and bylaws are enforced in building operations; and
- ◆ consulting with architects, engineers and other technical works to ensure that design intentions are met.

Professional builders may specialise as contracts administrators, construction managers, project managers or quantity surveyors. Many professional builders work in private organisations such as large construction and development companies or consultancies. Some are employed by government departments, while others are self-employed building contractors.

Personal Requirements

- ◆ well-developed communication skills
- ◆ personal drive, initiative and resourcefulness
- ◆ management and leadership ability
- ◆ problem solving ability

Education and Training

Entry to this job usually requires completion of a relevant building course plus industry experience with a registered builder.

- ◆ Certificate IV Building and Construction (Residential)
- ◆ Diploma in Building and Construction (Medium Rise/Commercial)
- ◆ Certificate II in Building and Construction

