

FAQS FOR A SAFE AND CONTROLLED RESTART OF THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR FROM 2 JUNE 2020

Contents

Section A: General..... 2

Section B: Applying to Resume Construction Works..... 3

Section C: COVID-Safe Worksite 6

Section D: COVID-Safe Workforce 10

Section E: COVID-Safe Worker Accommodation and Transport 11

Section F: COVID-Safe Training..... 13

Section G: Facilities Management..... 17

Section H: Lifts and Escalators..... 18

Section A: General

Q1: I had earlier obtained MTI's approval to perform essential services during the Circuit Breaker period. Do I need to apply to BCA to continue these works from 2 Jun (inclusive) onwards?

A1. All companies previously approved by MTI during the Circuit Breaker to carry out essential services (refer to BCA Advisory Table 3), will require submission to BCA by 15 June 2020 to continue working if they employ construction account workers. Companies that fail to obtain approval from BCA for their construction account workers will not be allowed to deploy their construction workers from 16 June 2020 onwards.

Q2: Are there any subsidies to help defray the costs for firms to implement COVID-safe Restart Criteria?

A2. The government is looking into this, and details on any additional subsidies or financial assistance will be announced in due course.

Q3: How will BCA be conducting checks to ensure that the firms are complying to COVID-safe Restart Criteria?

A3. BCA will implement an Audit and Inspection (A&I) regime using technology solutions, as well as carry out audits and inspections, to conduct checks and to ensure compliance on site.

Penalties will be imposed on firms which have contravened the COVID-Safe restart criteria. In addition, these firms will be required to resubmit their rectification plans, where applicable, and implement these measures as part of the follow ups to the enforcement actions taken.

Q4: What happens if a project is found to have a worker infected with COVID-19 after works have resumed?

A4. The whole team that the infected worker is from as well as other workers staying on the same floor will have to be isolated and tested; works on site may be suspended.

Section B: Applying to Resume Construction Works

Q1: How do I check if my construction project or DfMA factory/ready-mixed concrete plant/sand and aggregate terminal (Supply Works Premises) can resume works?

A1. BCA will identify selected Construction Projects and Supply Works for resumption of work on 2 June 2020, and notify the respective project owners and owners of Supply Works Premises the application process by 27 May 2020. Project owners and owners of Supply Works Premises that have not received any notification from BCA by 27 May 2020 will be scheduled to resume work at a later date.

Q2: Who is supposed to apply to BCA for approval?

A2. For Construction Projects, a joint application form endorsed by the Developer and Main Contractor should be submitted through the Main Contractor of the construction project applying to BCA for the approval to restart. For joint arrangement of main contractors (e.g. Consortium, Joint Venture, etc.), all parties shall collaborate and jointly submit one application. The Main Contractor should also consolidate the information for all works performed by all subcontractors and submit in one application.

For Supply Works carried out in Supply Works Premises, the owner should be the party to apply to BCA for approval before works in these factories can restart.

For Construction Account Works, the Business Owner carrying out these works should be the party to apply to BCA with details on their construction account workers.

Q3: Why was my contractor unable to successfully apply for restart, even after being informed of our eligibility to apply for restart under the current phase?

A3. The granting of approval to resume works is dependent on fulfilling all aspects of the COVID-Safe Restart Criteria. As such, plans submitted shall be comprehensive, addressing all stipulated requirements to ensure a COVID-safe working environment for all project parties. We seek the cooperation of applicants to refrain from submitting multiple duplicate applications as these may overload the system and lengthen processing time. Duplicate applications will be rejected.

Q4: I want to start on building works that does not require a permit from BCA (i.e. Insignificant Building Works). Do I need to apply to BCA to commence these works?

A4: Yes. For insignificant building works (IBW) within a Construction Project site (with e-Corenet Project reference number.), these works should be applied to start under the Main Contractor's application to Restart for the whole Construction Project.

For insignificant building works performed outside a construction project, companies are to make an application on a later date (details to be given at a later date).

Q5: I have already obtained BCA's approval to resume works at one of my projects/Supply Works Premises. Will I be able to proceed with works on all my projects/ DfMA factories?

A5. No. For construction projects, the approval granted by BCA to resume works is project specific.

Similarly, for supply works, the approval granted by BCA to resume works is also specific to each Supply Works Premise.

For essential site activities as indicated in Annex A of BCA Advisory dated 2 May 2020 (e.g. site maintenance, site safety, vector control, instrumentation & monitoring), the approval will be specific to the project locations and works indicated in the approval granted by BCA.

For construction account works, BCA approval is required before the deployment of construction account workers.

Q6: I am constructing on-site living quarters for my site but not starting other parts of the project, do I need to obtain BCA's approval first before constructing the on-site quarters?

A6: Yes. Construction of on-site quarters alone without starting other parts of the project would also need BCA's approval to start work from 2 June 2020, similar to any other construction project. You will also need to apply for the necessary permits with the relevant agencies. For more information on MOM's requirements for housing please visit: <https://www.mom.gov.sg/passes-and-permits/work-permit-for-foreign-worker/housing/various-types-of-housing>

Q7: Can preparation works like cable detection, trial trenching, hoarding works for new Construction Projects be carried out from 2 June 2020 onwards, or do the requirements for Construction Projects have to be fully complied with?

A7. All preparation works such as cable detection, trial trenching, hoarding works must seek approval from BCA similar to starting of any other construction work and comply with the COVID-Safe Restart Criteria.

Q8. My company had received approval from BCA to restart construction account works with some workers after 2 June 2020. Do I need to inform BCA of additional manpower that I plan to deploy?

A9. Companies that had received approval from BCA to restart construction account works with some workers and now wish to deploy additional workers who are construction work permit or S-pass holders before deployment, will need to seek BCA's approval again for these additional workers.

Companies carrying out construction account works must ensure compliance with COVID-Safe Workforce and COVID-Safe Worker Accommodation and Transport Restart Criteria for the construction Work Permit and S Pass holders that they employ, as well as prevailing requirements from MOM. All workers are also required to attend

training to be familiarised with COVID safe management measures before restarting work. More details are available at www.bcaa.edu.sg/BESafe.

Section C: COVID-Safe Worksite

Q1: Are locals and foreign workers subject to the same COVID-Safe Worksite criteria?

A1. The applicability of the various COVID-safe requirements are stated in the respective guidelines.

Q2: What can the homeowner/members of the public do if they observe that contractor(s) are not seen to be implementing COVID-Safe Restart/safe-distancing measures while carrying out activities?

A2. Members of the public can inform BCA at <https://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform/> or 1800-3425222.

Q3: Can a Workplace Safety & Health Officer (WSHO) also be a Safe Management Officer (SMO)?

A3: Yes, a WSHO can also be an SMO.

Q4: Can a team be divided into sub-teams at the worksite?

A4: Yes. Each sub-team will be treated as separate teams. Each sub-team will have to be segregated both at place of accommodation as well as at worksite from the other sub-teams even if they are doing the same activity. For example, if a worksite has 3 piling machines, each team will have to work within the designated zone and no exchange of workers between the 3 teams will be allowed.

Q5: Are multiple dedicated accommodations allowed?

A5: It is possible for workers of a worksite to be housed at one or more dedicated accommodations, for example, one on-site CTQ and another TOLQ.

Q9: Can a site be separated into 2 or more sub-sites?

A9: Yes, a physical barrier is to be erected and there must be a separate entrance/exit for each sub-site. The workers must also be housed in different dedicated accommodations. Within each sub-site, the same segregation requirements for each team working within a designated zone and segregation on the use of communal shared facilities will apply.

Q10: My worksite does not allow workers to hold on to mobile phones while at the work area due to safety/security reasons. Can I use other methods to replace TraceTogether?

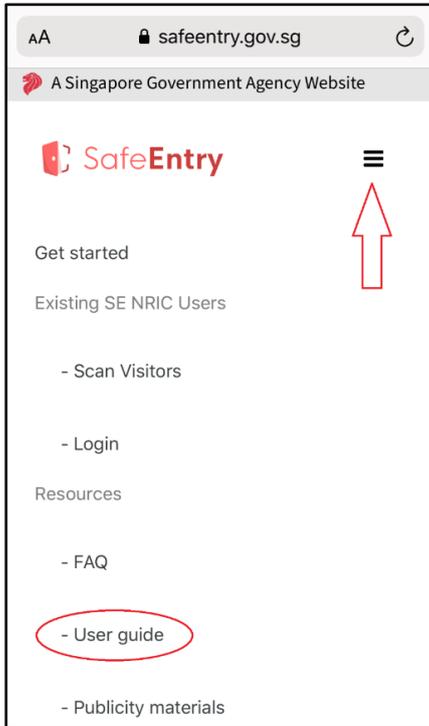
A10: It will be a requirement for all personnel entering site to have a smart phone with TraceTogether app installed before they are allowed to enter the site. All personnel have to ensure that the TraceTogether app is turned on (i.e. Bluetooth is switched on) and that they carry their handphone with them at all times within the worksite. In the

application to resume works, the contractor has to confirm that this requirement can be achieved.

Q11: Where can I get the User Guide for SafeEntry NRIC?

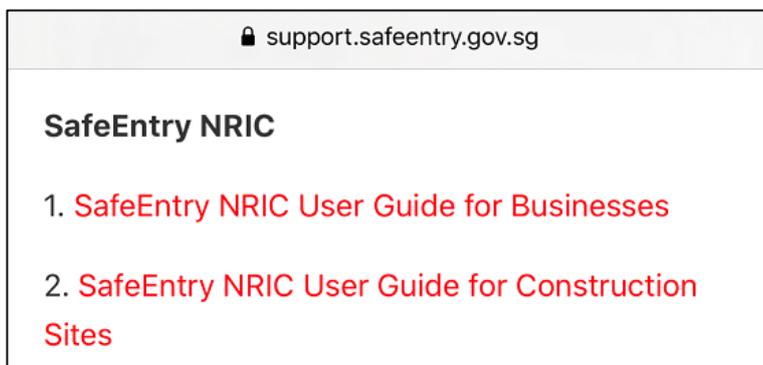
A11: Step 1: Log on to <https://www.safeentry.gov.sg>

Step 2: Click on the menu and select “Resources - **User guide**”



Step 3: For worksites that do not have a Postal Code (e.g. Construction Site), download the “SafeEntry NRIC User Guide for Construction Sites”.

For worksites that have a Postal Code and address (e.g. Integrated Construction and Prefabrication Hub), download the “SafeEntry NRIC User Guide for Businesses”.



Q12: How do I sign up for SafeEntry NRIC?

A12: After you have downloaded the relevant SafeEntry NRIC User Guide, follow the steps in section “How to sign up for SafeEntry NRIC”.

Q13: How do I start using SafeEntry NRIC at my worksite?

A13: For worksites that do not have a Postal Code, follow the SafeEntry NRIC User Guide for Construction Sites, section “Start using SafeEntry at your construction site”.

- Select “**Construction site**” as a category. You will be able to enter Project Name and Project Reference Number.

For worksites that have a Postal Code and address, follow SafeEntry NRIC User Guide for Businesses, section “Start using SafeEntry for your business”.

- Select “**Others**” as a category. You will be able to enter your Postal Code, address and Unit number.

Q14: How do I setup Zones within a worksite using SafeEntry NRIC?

A14: In SafeEntry NRIC, zones within a worksite (e.g. Construction Site, ICPH, DfMA facilities, RMC plants, etc.) can be implemented by naming the entrance/exit points of the zones accordingly. At each scanning point, when staff/guard start SafeEntry for NRIC/FIN scanning, they need to enter Name (refer to figure below) for that entrance/exit point, e.g. “Main Gate”, “Zone 1”, “Zone 2”, “Zone 3”, “Level 5”, “Level 6”, “Onsite Dormitory”, etc. The naming must be consistent throughout, even when the staff/guard is rotated, as it will be captured in the entry/exit records.

Different zones can be implemented at the worksite by designating entrance/exit points for each zone to scan the NRIC/FIN for every person who enter/exit the zone. There is no limit to the number of entrances/exit points, however, everytime the staff/guard start SafeEntry for NRIC/FIN scanning, consistent naming must be ensured so that the records are captured correctly and consistently.

Branch code is unique for each construction site. Refer to User Guide section “**How to find your branch code**”.

when staff/guard start SafeEntry for NRIC/FIN scanning they need to enter Name for that entrance/exit point, e.g. “**Main Gate**”, “**Zone 1**”, “**Zone 2**”, “**Zone 3**”, “**Onsite Dormitory**”, etc. **The naming must be consistent throughout, even when the staff/guard is rotated, as it will be captured in the entry/exit records.**

Q15: How do I start scanning NRIC/FINs at entrances and exits?

A15. To start scanning for NRIC/FIN at the designation entrance/exit points, e.g. at the Main Gate, at different Zones entrances/exits, follow the User Guide under section “Set up SafeEntry NRIC to use with a smartphone” if you are using a smartphone to scan, or section “Set up SafeEntry NRIC to use with PC and barcode scanner” if you are using a PC and barcode scanner.

Q16: Where can I get technical support for SafeEntry NRIC?

A16. Step 1: Log on <https://support.safeentry.gov.sg/hc/en-us>

Step 2: Select “Contact us”

Step 3: Select “Where can businesses go for SafeEntry NRIC related technical support?”

Contact us

SafeEntry NRIC

Where can businesses go for SafeEntry NRIC related technical support?

How can I provide feedback to improve the app?

Q17: Where can I find more resources and FAQs on SafeEntry?

A17. More resources and FAQs are available at <https://www.safeentry.gov.sg>

Section D: COVID-Safe Workforce

Q1: Who would need to be regularly tested?

A1: All construction work permit holders and S Pass holders will need to be tested regularly, once every 2 weeks. In addition, Singapore Citizens /Permanent Residents/ Employment Pass holders working on construction sites will also be subjected to this requirement. This includes all full-time and part-time employees, such as resident engineers, resident technical officers, consultants, project managers and, personnel attending on-site meetings.

Q2: How can I arrange for my employees to be tested?

A2: For employees (including Singapore Citizens/ Permanent Residents/ Employment Pass holders who work on construction sites and construction work permit holders and S Pass holders) residing in non-dormitories e.g. HDBs and private residential premises, companies can log in and book swab appointments on behalf of them, via an online swab registration system. For employees staying in dormitories, government will arrange for testing after dormitories are cleared

The online swab registration system is being developed. In the interim, BCA will facilitate by contacting eligible companies to arrange for these employees to be tested. All swabs will strictly be by appointment basis. More details on swab locations and registration system will be released at a later date.

Q3: Can I make my own private arrangements for my employees to be tested?

A3: Companies should not approach laboratories/hospitals to set up a private arrangement for these tests. Eligible companies will be contacted by BCA to arrange for the employees to be tested

Q4: Do Singapore Citizens/ Permanent Residents/ Employment Pass holders who work on construction site need to be tested before resuming works?

A4: No, they do not need to be tested before resuming works. However, they will be required to be tested within the first two weeks of starting work.

Section E: COVID-Safe Worker Accommodation and Transport

Q1: Can a Factory-Converted Dormitory (FCD) housing only workers of the same contractor but working on different sites be considered a dedicated accommodation?

A1: Yes. Within the FCD, the premises have to be compartmentalised into separate zones so that workers working on different project sites do not mix with each other. Communal facilities such as toilets, and shower rooms also have to be separated. The contractor must put in place control measures to prevent mixing of workers. For example, installing CCTV for monitoring of workers or installation of physical barriers.

Q2: Can a Construction Temporary Quarters (CTQ) housing workers of the site, and workers of the same contractor/subcontractor but working at other sites be considered a dedicated accommodation?

A2. No. The workers are not allowed to work on other sites.

Q3: Are Private Residential Properties (PRP) considered a dedicated accommodation?

A3: Yes, provided that all the workers living at the PRP are doing the same type of activity of the same site and are working for the same employer.

Q4: Project sites might have a few subcontractors whom have their own factory converted dormitory (FCD) and are unwilling to move to dedicated accommodation due to cost implication. Are there any guidelines to help with this?

A4: From 2nd June 2020, only the projects prioritised for restart will be able to start. The Government will be helping to facilitate the movement of workers/re-shuffling of workers for these selected projects. All contractors seeking to start work on these selected projects must cohort their workers into a dedicated accommodation. S-Pass and Work Permit Holders staying in HDB units or Private Residential Premises (PRP) who are working on construction sites must also stay together with the rest of the workforce. This is to minimise the intermixing of workers from different accommodations.

However, for workers of specialist contractors or sub-contractors who may be working on a project site for a transient period, these workers can be housed separately but will have to be cohorted away from other workers in the project in other dedicated accommodations.

Q5: What are the specifications required for the Construction Temporary Quarters (CTQs) and the Temporary Occupation License Quarters (TOLQs)?

A5: During this COVID-19 situation, the provision of more on-site housing such as CTQs and TOLQs is critical to support the government's efforts in thinning out of the Purpose Built Dormitories (PBDs)/ Factory Converted Dormitories (FCDs) to create

more elbow space, as well as to create a safer workforce for the Safe Restart as on-site workers are segregated away from other workers from other projects.

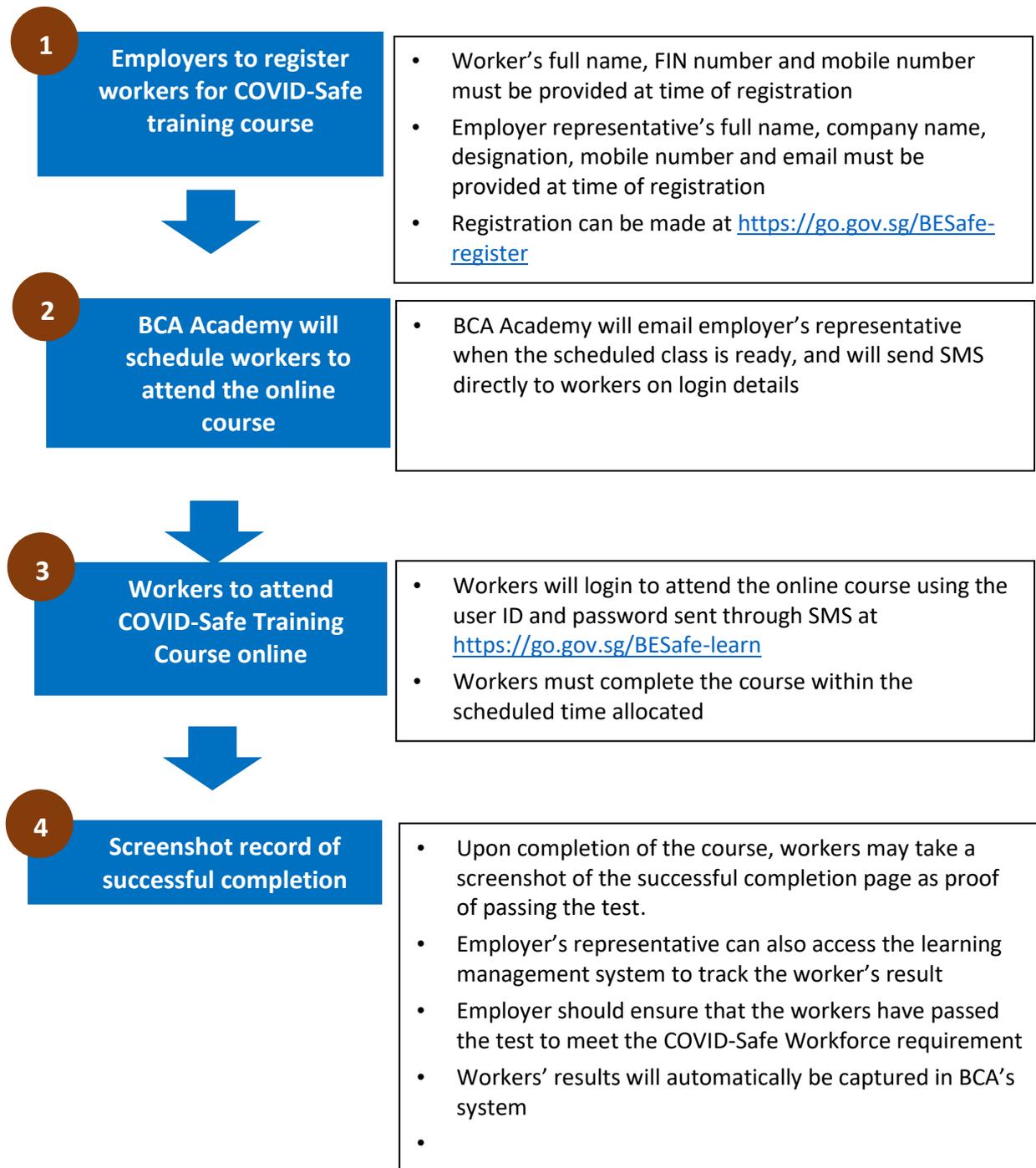
As part of the review to enhance the specifications of permanent dormitories to improve our resilience in dealing with pandemics, MOM/MOH is requiring for all new foreign workers (FWs) accommodations to meet the new permanent dormitories specifications.

Q6: Are workers allowed to take public transport?

A6: As stated in our COVID-safe restart criteria, all workers will have to be provided with dedicated transport by their employers.

Section F: COVID-Safe Training

(A) Workflow of COVID-Safe Training for Workers



(B) About COVID-Safe Training for Workers

Q1: What is COVID-Safe Training for Workers Supporting the Built Environment?

A1. The course aims to equip workers supporting the built environment sector with the knowledge and guidance on safe practices, as well as being socially responsible to minimise the risk of COVID-19.

Q2: Is this a compulsory course that all workers must attend? How much does it cost?

A2. All workers supporting the built environment sector, i.e. Construction Projects, Supply Works and Construction Account Works¹, must attend and pass the course, in order to meet the COVID-Safe Workforce criteria for resumption of work. The course is free of charge.

Q3: How is the course conducted?

A3. The course is conducted online. Workers can attend the course using their mobile phone or tablets.

Q4: If the workers are not proficient in English, is the course offered in other languages?

A4. The course material and content will only be available in English. However, there will be a voice-over in Bengali, Burmese, Chinese, Malay and Tamil. In addition, the course material is mainly in graphical and animated format for ease of understanding.

Q5: What is the format of the assessment?

A5. The assessment is competency based. It aims to assess the worker's understanding and application of the course content. The assessment will include multiple choice questions and/or scenario-based questions. If the workers answer the questions incorrectly, they will be guided until they are able to answer the questions correctly.

Q6: What is the duration of the course?

A6. The duration of the online course will be approximately 3 hours, including a short end-of-course assessment.

Q7: Will the workers be awarded a certificate at the end of the course?

A7. No certificate will be issued. Upon successful completion and passing of the course, workers can take a screenshot of the online completion page. Worker's result will also be automatically captured in BCA's system.

¹ Please refer to *BCA Advisory for the Built Environment for a Safe and Controlled Restart of Construction Sector* for the definition of the works.

(C) Administration for COVID-Safe Workforce Training Course

Q8: If the workers have changed their mobile number, what should I do?

A8. Employers need to ensure that the contact details submitted in their registration for the course is updated.

Q9: Will I be notified of my worker's course result?

A9. Employer's representative can access the learning management system to track workers' results. The workers may also take a screenshot of their test results as proof of having passed the course.

Q10: If my worker forgot to take a screenshot that they have passed the course, what should they do?

A10. Workers can login to the Learning Management System (<https://go.gov.sg/BESafe-learn>) to retrieve their record within 3 days from course completion.

(D) About Safe Management Officers Course for Construction

Q11: What is the Safe Management Officers Course for Construction?

A11. The course is specially curated for the construction sector, to equip Safe Management Officers (SMO)s and Safe Distancing Officers (SDO)s with the knowledge and skills to implement and coordinate a system of Safe Management Measures (SMM)s suitable for the sector.

Q12: Who should attend this course?

A12. All SMOs and SDOs should attend and pass the course, in order to meet the COVID-Safe Worksite criteria for the resumption of works.

Q13: How is the course conducted?

A13. The course will be conducted in synchronous format, i.e. learning in a group at the same time remotely via Zoom. It will be conducted in 4 hours, with a 30-minute end-of-course assessment.

Q14: What is the course fee?

A14. The course fee is \$75 (incl. 7% GST) per participant. Company-sponsored local employees will enjoy SSG Funding with a baseline funding support at 50% of the course fee (capped at \$15 per hour). In addition, enhanced funding is applicable for the following categories:

<u>Funding Scheme</u> <i>(click on the embedded link)</i>	<u>Course Fee Subsidy</u> <i>(T&C apply)</i>
• Enhanced Training Support for SMEs	90% course fee funding for employees of SMEs, capped at \$50 per hour
• SkillsFuture - SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy	90% course fee funding, capped at \$50 per hour
• Workfare Training Support Scheme - Individuals	95% course fee funding, capped at \$53 per hour

Q15: Will there be any assessment at the end of the course?

A15. Yes. There will be a 30-minute end-of-course assessment at the end of the course. Upon successful completion and passing of the course, a Certificate of Successful Completion will be issued.

Q16: When will the course commence? How can I register for the course?

A16. The 1st run of the course will commence on 5 June 2020. To register for the course or to download the course brochure, please visit www.bcaa.edu.sg

Section G: Facilities Management

Q1: What type of Facilities Management (FM) work can carry on/resume after the CB period on 2 June 2020?

A1. If your firm deploys services account workers for facilities management (FM) work, you may continue after CB on 2 June 2020 with MTI's approval. For FM companies that deploys construction account workers for FM work, you must obtain BCA's approval by 15 June 2020. FM work includes the repair and maintenance of:

- i. Air-conditioning and mechanical ventilation systems (ACMV),
- ii. Fire protection systems,
- iii. Security and surveillance systems (such as CCTVs),
- iv. Electrical and plumbing works, and
- v. Building Management systems

To obtain approval for these construction account workers (except employment pass workers), they must have been swab-tested and proven COVID-negative. These workers must also complete an online course to be familiarised with COVID safe management measures before restarting work. More details are available at www.bcaa.edu.sg/BESafe.

Q2. What are the requirements that have to be met for FM company carrying out their work at workplaces?

A2. All FM firms carrying out work at workplaces must adhere to the following requirements:

1. COVID-Safe Workforce (for construction account workers)
2. COVID-Safe Accommodations / Transport (for construction account workers)
3. MOM's Safe Management Measures for General Workplaces

More information about the COVID-Safe requirements can be found at: <https://go.gov.sg/bca-restart-criteria>

Please refer to MOM's Safe Management Measures at:

<https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures>.

This includes measures such as segregation of different teams performing different work, or in different shifts. Workers in different teams/shifts (e.g. workers from installation team, upgrading team and maintenance team) are to be segregated so that they do not physically interact during work and after work.

Section H: Lifts and Escalators

Q1: Can maintenance of L&E carry on after the CB period on 2 June 2020?

A1: Maintenance of L&E work may continue after CB on 2 June 2020. If your firm deploys any construction account worker for maintenance of L&E during the CB period, you must obtain BCA's approval before 15 June 2020 for them to continue to maintain L&E. To obtain approval for these construction account workers, they must have been swab-tested and proven COVID-negative. Please contact BCA to make arrangement for your construction account workers to be swab-tested.

In addition, all workers must also complete an online course by 15 June 2020. More details can be found here: www.bcaa.edu.sg/BESafe

Q2: If my construction account worker was not approved to work during the circuit breaker period, can I deploy him to carry out maintenance work after 1 June 2020?

A2: He will not be allowed to work unless he has obtained approval from BCA. To obtain approval, he must have been swab-tested and proven COVID-negative. Please contact BCA to make arrangement for your construction account workers to be swab-tested.

Q3: Can upgrading of L&E (where a permit to commence structural works from BCA is not required) resume after the CB period on 2 June 2020?

A3: For upgrading works involving L&E that are not in a construction site and do not require a permit to commence structural works from BCA, you must obtain BCA's approval (<https://go.gov.sg/bca-construction-accounts>) for your construction account workers to resume work before they can be deployed after 1 June 2020.

To obtain approval for these construction account workers (except employment pass workers), they must have been swab-tested and proven COVID-negative. These workers must also complete an online course. Please contact BCA to make arrangement for your construction account workers to be swab-tested. More details on the online course can be found here: www.bcaa.edu.sg/BESafe

Q4: Can installation and/or upgrading of L&Es (where a permit to commence structural works from BCA is required) resume after the CB period on 2 June 2020?

A4: L&E installation and/or upgrading works where a permit to commence structural works from BCA is required cannot resume/commence unless specific approval from BCA is obtained. The resumption/commencement of these works will follow a phased starting of the construction projects.

Q5. Can I deploy a maintenance worker to do installation work, or an installation worker to do maintenance work?

A5. No, L&E maintenance workers are only allowed to carry out maintenance work. They must not come into contact with any installation worker, nor enter any upgrading/installation site as part of the safe management measures to ensure segregation of their workforce into different teams.

Q6. My company carries out both L&E maintenance and upgrading/installation, what are some of the things that I should take note of?

A6. Employers are to house L&E maintenance workers separately from installation workers. Where possible, L&E maintenance workers should not stay in dormitories.

Employers must ensure that their workers are provided with sufficient personal protective equipment such as face masks and observe good personal hygiene (hand sanitisers). Employers must also have safe distancing measures in place when works are being carried out, where possible.

Companies with construction work permit and S-Pass holders providing services related to lift and escalators maintenance must ensure compliance with COVID-Safe Workforce and COVID-Safe Worker Accommodation/Transport Restart Criteria that can be found at <https://go.gov.sg/bca-restart-criteria>