



Safetree Professional Forest Worker Certification

- Certification is a great way for Tree-Fallers and Breakers-Out to keep their skills up-to-date.
- It tells everyone they have been independently assessed as able to work safely.
- Certification does not replace other training. It is a way to confirm trained workers are still on top of their game.

What happens?

To become certified, workers must pass an assessment by an independent assessor. The assessment tests their knowledge of the ACOP, best practice guides and unit standards. Practical skills are also checked, including how to manage risks. To stay certified, workers must be re-assessed annually to ensure they stay up-to-date with changes to health and safe practice. If workers do well on their assessments for three years, there is scope to reduce how frequently they need to be re-assessed in future.

How long does it take?

Certification can be achieved on the first visit if the person being assessed has done some preparation by reading the information on the Safetree website. The assessment visit includes an introduction to the process and the actual assessment. Sometimes extra visits are needed before someone can show they have reached the standard in all areas.

Getting started

The first step to becoming a certified worker is to visit the Safetree website and create an account. You will receive an email invite from ecoPortal, which runs the register of Certified Workers and Contractors. Once you accept the invite and set up your password, you will be able to log in, receive certificates and see your assessments online anytime in the future. This login is yours and will not change even if you move to another company. This is free for tree-fallers and breaker-outs.

Preparing for the assessment

There are tools on Safetree.nz to help people get ready for certification. These include copies of the assessments used to assess fallers and breaker-outs. Once a worker is ready, use the list of assessors on the website to arrange an assessment.

What else is expected?

Crews have to show that what they're doing is normal practice and not just a show put on for the assessment. This can be done by giving the assessor records like audits done by forest owners; safe behaviour observations by other crew members; or logbooks showing when checks have been done and the outcomes.

To get help logging in, registering, or filling in the forms please call 0800 SAFE 123 (0800 723 3123) or email certification@safetree.nz