

JOB TITLE: QUANTITY SURVEYOR

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY	DAILY ACTIVITIES
<p>A quantity surveyor manages all costs relating to the construction projects. From the initial calculations to the final figures, quantity surveyors seek to minimise the costs of a project and enhance value for money, whilst still achieving the required standards and quality. Many of these are specified by statutory building / construction regulations which the surveyor needs to understand and adhere to.</p> <p>A quantity surveyor may work for either the client or the contractor, and may be based either in an office or on site.</p> <p>Quantity Surveyors work on projects ranging from office blocks, schools, hospitals, factories to bridges, railways, oil and mining development, and large process engineering works such as oil refineries. Anywhere, indeed, that major construction work is carried out.</p> <p>Quantity Surveyors work closely with architects, financiers, engineers, contractors, suppliers, project owners, accountants, insurance underwriters, legal professionals and Courts and with all levels of government authorities.</p> <p>At feasibility stage quantity surveyors use their knowledge of construction methods and costs to advise the owner on the most economical way of achieving his requirements. Quantity surveyors may use techniques such as Cost Planning, Estimating, Cost Analysis, Cost-in-use Studies and Value Management to establish a project budget.</p>	<p>Typical tasks may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • managing costs on a wide variety of new building projects and structures, such as residential developments, sports stadiums, roads and bridges, schools, hospitals, offices and factories; • undertaking costs analysis for repair and maintenance project work; • assisting in establishing a client's requirements and undertaking feasibility studies; • preparing early stage budgets and detailed cost plans; • performing risk and value management and cost control; • advising on procurement strategy; • preparing tender and contract documents, including bills of quantities; • identifying, analysing and developing responses to commercial risks; • preparing and analysing costings for tenders; • establishing and operating cost and financial control systems; • allocating work to subcontractors; • negotiating to ensure budgets are not exceeded; • providing advice on contractual claims; • analysing outcomes and writing detailed progress reports; • valuing completed work and arranging payments; • developing knowledge relevant to contract conditions and their applications; • maintaining awareness of the different building contracts in current use; • understanding the implications of health and safety regulations.
QUALIFICATION PRE-REQUISITE	CAREER DEVELOPMENT
<p>Quantity Surveyors have usually completed an appropriate tertiary degree course and undertaken work experience which qualifies them for membership of the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors.</p>	<p>Quantity surveyors' in addition to having private professional practice can also be employed in one of the following sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ construction ○ property development ○ government ○ finance <p>Many leaders in the commercial world are qualified quantity surveyors</p>

<p>PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>The following skills are required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantity surveyors must have orderly and analytical minds and be prepared to work to very rigid time schedules. As decisions involving large sums of money are often made using information produced by them they must be accurate in all aspects of their work. Initiative; Enthusiasm; Commitment; hard work. 		<p>CHALLENGES</p> <p>Skilled people - the more investment is made into infrastructure the more professional services are demanded. To meet various client requirements, the greatest challenge is finding the right, experienced people for the projects.</p> <p>Another challenge involves finding a way to compromise and act as a bridge between clients, which requires a good understanding of the academic knowledge and practices.</p> <p>Everyday is a challenge as you work on multi-million dollar projects.</p>
<p>JOB SATISFACTION</p> <p>The commitment to personal skills enhancement and hard work result in substantial financial reward.</p>	<p>ADVICE FOR JOB SEEKERS</p> <p>Quantity Surveyor is an extremely diverse area and can include project management, facility management, construction management and management consultancy, which is a great variety of careers to choose from.</p>	
	<p>WORKING ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>If employed at the head office of a large company a Quantity Surveyor would need to alternate between the office environment and visiting the sites. If it is a large project the Quantity Surveyor may have a temporary office on site.</p> <p>The working environment is thus varied between indoors and outdoors as well as projects based in cities or in urban areas.</p>	
<p>EDUCATION AND TRAINING</p> <p>There are two routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a four year full-time or five year part-time B.Sc (QS) university degree a three year technikon diploma advancing to a B-Tech degree after a further year of study <p>Within both these levels of entry a route exists for advancement to full registration as a professional practising quantity surveyor.</p> <p>A two year correspondence course is also available, through which a candidate may qualify as a quantity surveying assistant.</p>	<p>LENGTH OF STUDY</p> <p>It is important to be aware that gaining the relevant experience and skills and becoming professionally takes a significant length of time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BSc (QS) is a four year full-time or five year part-time university degree. The Higher Diploma is a three year technikon diploma advancing to a B-Tech degree after a further year of study. 	