

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Implementation of the Contractors Registration System (CRS) Enhancements from 1 June 2025

New CRS Entry Requirements from 1 June 2025

1. Do firms need to register with CRS, if they are not bidding for public sector construction tenders?

From 1 June 2025, all firms that hire foreign construction workers will need to register with CRS, even if they do not intend to bid for public sector construction tenders.

2. Why are the CRS registration requirements raised?

The current CRS entry requirements for minimum track records (TR) and paid-up capital (PUC) were mostly set in 2002 and have not been adjusted for 20 years. Since 2002, construction costs and contract values have been steadily increasing. It is therefore necessary to adjust the CRS entry requirements for minimum TR and PUC to keep pace with current market prices.

3. What will happen to firms that are unable to meet the CRS registration requirements by 1 June 2025?

Firms are expected to meet the minimum PUC of \$50k when applying for or renewing their CRS registration on or after 1 June 2025. However, we understand that some firms may require more time to accumulate sufficient TR to meet the new minimum TR required for CRS registration. This is why we will put in place the probationary registration route, to provide such firms more time to build up their TR.

Firms that are unable to meet the \$100k TR requirement by the end of the probationary registration will be deregistered from CRS. These firms will still be allowed to operate in Singapore but they will not be able to hire new foreign construction workers or renew the work passes for their existing foreign construction workers.

Firms that have additional queries and/or clarifications regarding their CRS registration can direct them to <https://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform/>.

4. Will all existing CRS-registered firms need to meet the new entry requirements from 1 June 2025?

Firms that are currently registered under CRS will only be required to meet the new CRS entry requirements for minimum TR and PUC when they renew their CRS registration.

Probationary Registration from 1 June 2025

5. How will new firms be able to meet the TR requirement when they do not have any projects yet?

Firms that require more time to achieve the required TR can be registered in CRS on a probationary basis. To qualify for the probationary status, firms must have at least \$50k PUC, and meet the personnel and workhead-specific requirements as it is required for CRS registration today. These firms will be granted one-year CRS registration and would need to demonstrate that they have achieved \$100k TR by the end of the year, to extend their registration by another two years. Firms that cannot achieve the required TRs will be de-registered. Deregistered firms will not be able to hire new foreign construction workers or renew the work passes of their existing workers, but can keep their existing workers until their work passes expire.

6. Does the one-year probationary registration apply to other grades?

The one-year probationary registration is only applicable for firms applying for workheads at the entry grade, or workheads with single grade. For higher registration grades, firms are required to fulfil all the registration requirements as stated in our Terms of Registration (TOR) for the relevant workheads.

7. If I submit more than \$100k TR after the first year of probationary registration, can I qualify for a longer extension for CRS registration?

No, all firms will only be granted a two-year extension, regardless of how much TR they submit.

8. My firm has achieved \$100k TR after my first year of probationary registration, and extended its CRS registration for another two years. What should I do after the two-year extension?

After the two-year CRS extension, firms will need to demonstrate that they have achieved \$300k TR over the past three years and meet all the other prevailing CRS entry requirements to qualify for CRS renewal.

9. Can firms use ongoing projects to accumulate their \$300k TR?

Yes, ongoing projects can be counted towards the \$300k TR. Please refer to the Specific Registration Requirements (SRR) of the respective workheads for more details on the requirements on projects that can be submitted as TR via this link: <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/procurement/pre-tender-stage/contractors-registration-system-crs>

Arrangements for Builders Licensing Scheme (BLS) and Singapore List of Trade Sub-Contractors (SLOTS)

10. Will the other registration systems, SLOTS & BLS, continue to exist after CRS becomes the sole gateway for firms to access foreign construction workers?

BLS will continue exist to ensure building safety by only allowing firms that meet certain standards to undertake high-impact building works that are regulated under the Building Control Act.

As for SLOTS, SCAL will continue to retain it as a reference for main contractors to identify competent sub-contractors. Firms can reach out to SCAL for more information on SLOTS.

11. What will happen to firms that are only registered on the other registration systems i.e. BLS and/or SLOTS?

From 1 June 2025, firms on BLS and/or SLOTS will also need to register with CRS if they require access to foreign construction workers and/or wish to undertake public sector projects.

Others

12. Are firms expected to meet any other requirements beyond PUC and TR to register under CRS?

Currently, firms need to fulfil PUC, TR, personnel requirements and other workhead-specific requirements such as having the relevant Builder licence, if applicable, to be registered in entry-level grades in CRS. Only the PUC and TR requirements will be raised to keep pace with the current market prices. This is to ensure that entry-level CRS firms continue to have the minimum financial capability and experience to sustain their operations and deliver projects.

13. How to apply for CRS and which CRS workhead should my firm register in?

There are about 50 workheads distributed across five categories in CRS. You can register in the workhead(s) that best describe your firm's main business activities. You can refer to BCA's website (<https://www1.bca.gov.sg/procurement/pre-tender-stage/contractors-registration-system-crs>) for more details on the workheads and their respective registration requirements.

All types of applications must be submitted through the Electronic Builders Licensing and Companies Registration Systems (eBACs).

14. There are different grades of CRS workheads. Must a firm only register in the entry grade?

No. The grade that a firm is registered in determines the firm's tendering limit for public sector construction projects. If a firm wants to be eligible for higher-value public sector construction tenders, it can register in a higher financial grade, but it will have to meet the higher requirements of the higher grade. Details of the requirements for each financial grade can be found on BCA's website.

15. How long is the processing time for CRS application?

Applications that contain all required information and duly completed documents may be processed within two (2) weeks, except for applications for certain Registration. Applications which require overseas verification may also take a longer time to be processed.