

# Why MTC Cards and Qualifications Matter

For any window and door installer or surveyor working in the glazing industry, holding a Mandatory Technical Competence card is not just a requirement – it's a badge of credibility, writes FENSA's Tom Butler as he explains what an MTC is and why you have to have one.

**To be a FENSA Approved Installer, you must maintain your Mandatory Technical Competence card, writes Tom Butler of FENSA.**

An MTC card is proof that an installer or surveyor has the skills, knowledge and experience to carry out work competently and professionally. Introduced as part of government regulations, MTCs ensure that those working in the industry meet national standards.

For every company that is FENSA approved, every lead installer and surveyor must hold a valid MTC card or equivalent qualification. Without it, you cannot self-certify work through FENSA, meaning additional paperwork, delays and the risk of non-compliance with building regulations. An MTC card proves you know what you are doing and can deliver compliant installations.

## How to get an MTC card

The FENSA SkillsCard is an option for experienced installers and surveyors who can demonstrate their skills in practice. An assessor will visit you on the job, observe your work and ensure you meet the required standards. This route can be completed within two weeks. A refresher is required after three years.

## Qualification route

If you prefer a formal qualification, you can undertake an NVQ

(National Vocational Qualification) in Fenestration Installation or Surveying. This includes coursework, practical assessments and portfolio submissions. NVQ courses generally last 12-18 months. A refresher is required after five years.

## Renewing

Like any many qualifications, MTC cards need to be renewed to ensure your knowledge remains up to date with industry standards and regulations. If your card is approaching its expiry date, the renewal process is relatively simple. It typically involves:

### A reassessment of your skills and experience

Staying on top of renewals ensures there are no gaps in your qualification, meaning you can continue working without interruption or risk to your FENSA Approved status.

## The benefits of a skilled team

Beyond meeting regulatory requirements, ensuring your team has the right skills and qualifications is critical to the long-term success of your business as it demonstrates the quality of your work and a skilled workforce delivers better results, leading to satisfied customers and fewer callbacks or complaints.

With MTC-certified staff, you can be confident that installations meet building regulations,



reducing the risk of fines or legal issues, while an enhanced knowledge of regulations and standards encourages staying ahead of regulatory changes.

## Reputation and growth

Homeowners want reassurance that they are hiring competent professionals. Holding the right qualifications enhances credibility and makes it easier to win new business. Having a properly trained team helps expand your services, take on more projects and operate more efficiently – making more money.

## Don't leave it until the last minute

Whether you need to obtain your first MTC card or renew an existing one, it's always best to plan ahead. Leaving it too late could put your FENSA Approved status at risk, meaning you won't be able to register your work. If you or your team need to renew your MTC card, you should speak to a member of the FENSA team as soon as possible, they will be happy to help. [i](#)

[www.fensa.org.uk](http://www.fensa.org.uk)