

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.
- That means they are doing what a WorkSafe inspector would expect to see and know how to protect themselves and their crew mates.

Certification does not replace other training. It is a way to confirm trained workers are still on top of their game. Free tools are available on Safetree.nz to help people get ready for certification.

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.

The first step to becoming a certified worker is to request a login here:

<https://safetree.ecoport.com/request-login>

You will receive an email invite from Ecoportal. 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 is easy

There are free tools on Safetree.nz to help people get ready for certification. These include an online game/mobile app for tree-fallers, and hard copy assessment tools for fallers and breaker-outs. These help people identify any gaps in their knowledge, or out-of-date practices. The tools also say where to go to find the right answer to the questions.

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. Certification can be suspended if a worker breaches critical safety rules.

How do I get started?

Go to Safetree.nz/training and use the game or assessment tools to test for any gaps or out-of-date practices. Where needed, use the links to the ACoP and best practice guides to find answers to questions. To arrange an assessment, click on the link to the list of assessors and contact them directly.

For more information see [Safetree.nz/training](https://safetree.nz/training)