CERTIFICATION STARTS when CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Through teamwork, open communication, and transparency, the Division of the State Architect (DSA) is committed to making the school construction certification process a success for all parties involved.

The following features of the certification process have been developed to ensure success.

**PROJECT INSPECTION CARD**

Rather than waiting until the end of construction to verify certain aspects of the project are complete, as work progresses the project inspector signs off the applicable blocks and sections of form DSA 152: Project Inspection Card, in compliance with DSA procedure PR 13-01: Construction Oversight Process. A stop work order may be issued for failure to complete a section of form DSA 152.

**ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL**

DSA launched a secure, cloud-based tool that allows stakeholders to submit and collaborate on documents in real time in DSAbox. Stakeholders can see when a document was submitted to DSA and can access that document at any time.

**POST–CONSTRUCTION**

As outlined in DSA procedure PR 13-02: Project Certification Process, once aware that a project is fully constructed, occupied, or otherwise in use, DSA works with the design/construction team collaboratively to finalize all certification requirements/documents.

On day 60 following the construction/occupation/use of the project, if the project is not certified, DSA will issue form DSA 301-N: Notification of Requirement for Certification to all parties associated with the project. Form DSA 301-N lists project deficiencies and the parties responsible for those deficiencies.

The parties have an additional 60 days to resolve deficiencies identified on form DSA 301-N in order to certify the project. At the end of the second 60-day period (day 120 following the construction/occupation/use of the project), if the project is not certified, DSA issues a form DSA 301-P: Notification of Requirements for Certification to all parties associated with the project.

Like form DSA 301-N, form DSA 301-P is a list of deficiencies for the project and the parties responsible for those deficiencies. Form DSA 301-P is posted in the publicly viewable Certification Box (see below). Any party responsible for a deficiency may submit the missing documentation to the Certification Box. School districts and design professionals may also submit form DSA 302: Response to 301-P, a document used to identify how they’ve attempted to resolve deficiencies.

**CERTIFICATION BOX**

Projects that are occupied without certification are placed in the Certification Box. Unlike DSAbbox, which is a place for stakeholders to access project documents, the Certification Box is open to the public. Available documents include form DSA 301-P; form DSA 102-IC: Construction Start Notice/Inspection Card Request, which identifies all parties associated with the project; and any submitted DSA 302 forms.

Even after being placed in the Certification Box, a project may be certified after all deficiencies have been resolved.
SCHOOL DISTRICT READY TO START CONSTRUCTION

COMPLETE FORMS

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

DSA 5 APPROVED

DSA 102-K RECEIVED

DSA 152 ISSUED

All 152 sections signed off

- Construction completed
- Occupied
- In use

1st 60 days

Submit all required documents and fees

Submit missing documents and/or fees

Day 60!

Stop work order

Get missing sections signed off

301- N

Notification of certification requirements

301- P

Notification of certification requirements

SUBMIT MISSING DOCUMENTS AND/OR FEES

Day 120!

SUBMIT DOCUMENTS AND/OR FEES

SCHOOL DISTRICT READY TO START CONSTRUCTION

CERTIFICATION!

#DSAcertified

Goes public...
FOR THE DESIGN PROFESSIONAL

ROLE OF DESIGN PROFESSIONALS IN THE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATION PROCESS

PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION
Submit form DSA 5-P: Project Inspector Qualification and Approval.
• Submit form DSA 102-IC: Construction Start Notice/Inspection Card Request.

DURING CONSTRUCTION
• Submit form DSA 6-A/E: Architect/Engineer Verified Report, as necessary, so that the project inspector can sign off on the appropriate boxes of form DSA 152.

COMPLETION OF PROJECT
• Promptly file form DSA 6-A notifying DSA that the project is complete for the purposes of certification (Structural, Fire & Life Safety, and Accessibility systems are complete).
• Once a project is complete, there are two 60-day periods to submit documents to DSA for certification of a project before the project is moved to the public Certification Box.
• On day 60, if the project is not certified, form DSA 301-N will be posted to DSAbbox outlining all the deficiencies for project certification and the party responsible for each deficiency. Promptly resolve any deficiencies for which you are responsible.
• On day 120, if the project is still not certified, form DSA 301-P will be posted to DSAbbox and the Certification Box, outlining all deficiencies for project certification and the party responsible for each deficiency. This document will be made available to the public through the Certification Box. Promptly resolve any deficiencies for which you are responsible.

BENEFITS OF THE NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATION PROCESS TO DESIGN PROFESSIONALS
• Now you don’t have to wait until the end of construction before submitting documents. The new DSA 152 requires you to submit interim, verified reports at specific points during construction before the project can move forward.
• During construction, DSAbbox allows you to upload, view, and share documents any time. No more worrying about misfiled papers!
• Once a project is complete, you have up to 120 days to submit documents and resolve deficiencies to certify the project before it is placed in the public Certification Box.
• If a project is not certified and is placed in the Certification Box, but you have completed your work, form DSA 301-P will identify who is responsible for the remaining deficiencies.
• In response to form DSA 301-P, you may submit form DSA 302 outlining your efforts to resolve identified deficiencies.
• The transparent process allows DSA, clients, and future clients the opportunity to review your work.

RESOURCES
DSAbbox Information: www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/Programs/progProject/dsabox.aspx
Certification Box: www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/Programs/progProject/dsabox/certbox.aspx