



FAQs on ECSA Digital Certification powered by real-time PrivySeal verification

1. What is the ECSA digital certificate and how is it different from the old version?

The ECSA digital certificate powered by PrivySeal is an electronic version of your ECSA registration certificate. It includes a real-time, dynamic Seal and Certificate that reflects your current registration and compliance status with the Council.

Every certificate comes with a dynamic verification seal (QR Code) that contains ones contact information in redacted format, requiring that registered persons keep their details with ECSA up to date.

Unlike PDF or paper certificates, it cannot be falsified or become outdated. When your status is cancelled due to non-payment of fees, non-compliance to CPD requirements, or disciplinary action as an outcome of a Governing Council decision, the Seal and linked certificate will disappear asking you to contact the Issuer which is the Engineering Council of South Africa.

2. When will the digital certificates be rolled out?

ECSA will launch the digital certificates on 07 August 2025 for all registered persons (Candidates and Professionals) on our database.

3. Do I need to get a new certificate before 1 January 2026 if I am already registered?

Yes, the current certificates are still valid up to 31 December 2025. But not from 1 January 2026 and thereafter. This means every registered person MUST update their contact details through the portal: <https://engineeringcouncilsa.microsoftcrmportals.com/> prior 1 January 2026 to get their ECSA digital certification.

4. Will I still get a physical certificate post confirmation of my registration with ECSA?

No. ECSA will no longer issue paper certificates. From the date of deployment, the digital certificate will be the official and only accepted form of registration proof. Registered Persons have until **31 December 2025** to ensure that they have their digital certificates powered by PrivySeal, as proof of their registration with the Council.

5. Can I still use my existing paper certificate?

While old paper certificates remain proof of past registration, they will no longer reflect current compliance or good standing. Only the digital certificate will show your live registration status. This will be communicated to all industry stakeholders.

6. What do I need to do to receive my digital certificate?

- Update your email and mobile number on the [ECSA self-service portal](#), if outdated.
- Confirm your employer details.
- Thereafter, monitor email notifications for activation link(s) from ECSA and PrivySeal.

7. What happens if I do not update my details, if outdated?

Your certificate will display erroneous contact details, which can negatively impact the verification of your identity by a prospective employer for the purposes of engineering work.

Please note that your ECSA profile is linked to the email address we have on record. If you have stopped using that email address, you can update it once you are in the system.

Not sure if you have got a profile or what email address (user name) it is linked to?

Give us a call on 0861 225 555 or send us an email at engineer@ecsa.co.za.

8. How will I receive my digital certificate?

Notice of your digital certificate will be sent to your verified email address as per the details on the ECSA Self-Service Portal.

It will include a link to access your ECSA certificate & seal online.

Be mindful that if ECSA does not have your most current email address, you will not receive your new certificate.

9. Will I have to pay for my digital certificate?

No. Digital certificates are issued at no cost. Just ensure your contact information is correct on the ECSA Self-Service Portal to receive your activation instructions.

10. Why doesn't my discipline appear on my ECSA certificate or profile, and how can I have it added?

Discipline fields are not EPA regulated. From 2000 onwards ECSA made a decision to add the discipline field to the registration certificate. This does mean that some persons do not have a discipline field in the ECSA CRM.

For the discipline to be added to the new digital certificate, the Registered Person must send a certified copy of the foundation engineering qualification to engineer@ecsa.co.za.

Subject line: Your ECSA registration number: Discipline

11. How does the verification on PrivySeal work?

The PrivySeal is a dynamic digital seal that:

- Updates in real time to reflect your current registration status and redacted contact details.
- Can be embedded in your email signature, work product and other media (e.g. CV, business card, and LinkedIn profile).
- Ensures only compliant and currently registered persons are verified as being registered with the Council.

You may also track views of your ECSA Seal and certificate at <https://credential-holders.privyseal.io/register>. Use email address as per email address linked to your ECSA profile to register your PrivySeal Account.

12. How can someone verify my registration status?

By scanning the QR code on the Seal or on your certificate.

Your certificate and Seal link are encrypted and appear on the ECSA Internet domain, ecsa.co.za, this allows instant online verification by employers, clients, or the public. It confirms your identity, registration credentials, and good standing with ECSA.

Please ensure that your contact and employer information are current to avoid disruptions. Your contact details will be updated on the live ECSA PrivySeal every time you make a change to these through the ECSA portal.

13. Is the digital certificate safe and secure?

Yes. The Certificate and Seal use secure, encrypted technologies. Your data is protected and personal details, redacted for privacy, are displayed on the certificate to prevent you becoming a victim of qualification fraud.

14. Where can I use the digital certificate?

Anywhere you would use a traditional certificate:

- Work product
- Email signatures
- Job applications
- Bidding for projects
- Digital CVs
- Professional websites and platforms

Access the following link for guidance on your email signature setup once your new certificate has been issued: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxiKivPG6Z4>

15. Who do I contact for assistance or technical support?

You can reach out to the Customer Service Centre on:

- Email: engineer@ecsa.co.za
- Phone: +27 11 607 9500

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