Certificate of Occupancy

# Apply for a Certificate of Occupancy

Version 1.4



# **Table of Contents**

Background	3
When is a Certificate of Occupancy required?	3
When is a Certificate of Occupancy not required?	3
Who will issue the Certificate of Occupancy?	3
What is the timeframe to issue a Certificate of Occupancy decision?	3
Associated instructions	4
1. Apply for a Certificate of Occupancy	5
Apply for a Certificate of Occupancy from the action task	5
Complete the Certificate of Occupancy application	5
View the Certificate of Occupancy Application Details	9
2. Track Certificate of Occupancy from your dashboard	11

# **Background**



A Certificate of Occupancy (CoO) is required to commence the occupation or use of a new building or change of building use for the whole or any part of an existing building; applies to buildings classified as a 1b, 2 to 9.

More information on Building classifications | ABCB.

#### When is a Certificate of Occupancy not required?

A Certificate of Occupancy is not required for a building or building work classified as a:

- Class 10, non-habitable building or structure under the Building Code such as:
  - o Private garage
  - o Carport
  - o Shed
  - o Fence
  - Retaining or free-standing wall
- Class 1a, building where the application for building consent is lodged and verified within the SA planning portal before 1 October 2024.

In the meantime, a person must not occupy a Class 1a building for which a Certificate of Occupancy is not required unless it meets the minimum standards for occupancy under regulation 103H(2).

#### Who will issue the Certificate of Occupancy?

A Certificate of Occupancy (CoO) will be issued by either the council or the building certifier. If you enter a contract with a licensed builder, you should discuss this issue with them and have your choice documented as part of the contract.

On completion of the building work, the building developer (or yourself as an owner-builder) will submit the last building notification to the relevant council or building certifier, including the completed Statement of Compliance.

The receipt of the Statement of Compliance will 'trigger' either the council or the building certifier to issue the Certificate of Occupancy.

#### What is the timeframe to issue a Certificate of Occupancy decision?

The timeframe for issuing a Certificate of Occupancy is five business days and 20 business days if a report from a fire authority is necessary (Class 1b, 2 to 9s buildings only, if applicable).

#### **Associated instructions**

#### 1 Submit Building Notification

Refer to the guide for instructions on how to submit mandatory building notification throughout the building works process. This includes submitting the 'completion of building work notification' and the 'Statement of Compliance' notifications; needed to issue a Certificate of Occupancy application.

#### 2 Submit Certificate of Occupancy Application

Refer to this guide for instructions on how to submit a Certificate of Occupancy Application.

#### 3 Upload Missing Documentation and Fire Report

Refer to this guide for instructions on uploading missing documentation requested by the issuing relevant authority during the validation of your Certificate of Occupancy Application, and instructions on uploading the Fire Report where your application validation identifies a 'Fire Report' is required.

#### 4 Pay the Certificate of Occupancy Fee - Online

Refer to this guide for instructions on how to find the Fee Advice to view and/or print, make a credit card payment and find the Tax Invoice to view and/or print.

### 5 Issued Certificate of Occupancy

Refer to this guide for instructions on viewing the decision outcome and to download the Certificate of Occupancy.

#### 6 Initiate an Appeal

Refer to the guide for information about lodging an appeal if you are not happy with a decision of the relevant authority in relation to the issuing of a Certificate of Occupancy.

# 1. Apply for a Certificate of Occupancy

When the final building notification 'Building Work Completed' is submitted following an inspection by the relevant authority (as required), you can then apply for the Certificate of Occupancy (applies only for a building classified as a 1b, 2 to 9).

After applying for the Certificate of Occupancy the issuing relevant authority is advised of your submission by email.

#### Apply for a Certificate of Occupancy from the action task

- 1. In your **For Your Action** table, locate the development application with a status of 'Apply for a Certificate of Occupancy' and click on the application (not the ID) to view the action requiring you to complete.
- 2. Click on Apply for a Certificate of Occupancy to start your application.



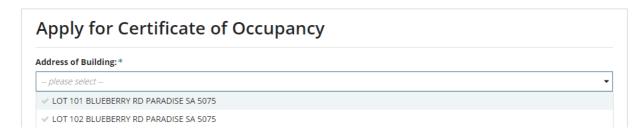
# Complete the Certificate of Occupancy application

#### Address of building



3. The Address of building will default.

When multiple property locations, remove the selection and then select the property location applicable from a list of building addresses.



#### Include building /building work



# There are no classifications available for this building/building work

When the selected building / building work is classified as a 1A (detached house/fire separated attached dwelling) and the building consent verified before 1 October 2024 then a Certificate of Occupancy is not required.



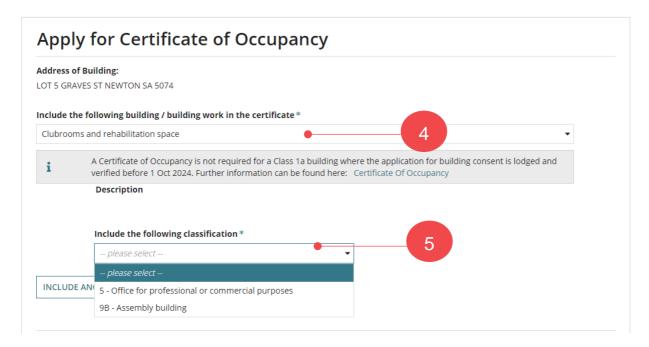


#### There are no building/building works to selection from

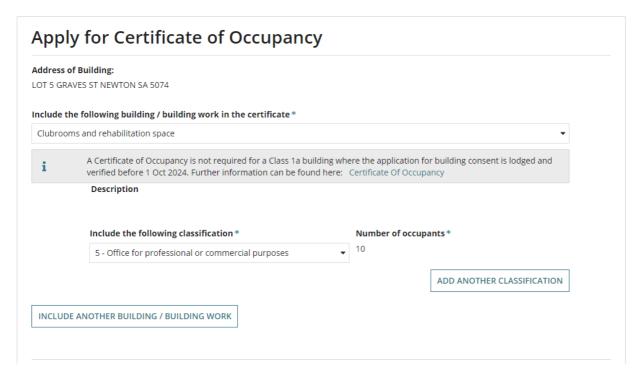
The building/building work is only available on the submission of the building/building completion of building work notification. To submit the completion of building work notification, open the applications **Notifications & Inspections** tab.



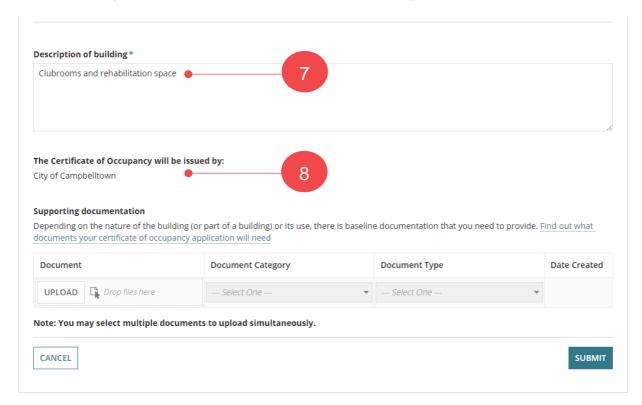
- 4. Choose the **building / building work** to include in the certificate.
- 5. Choose the **classification** of the selected building / building work.



6. Add another classification (as applicable).



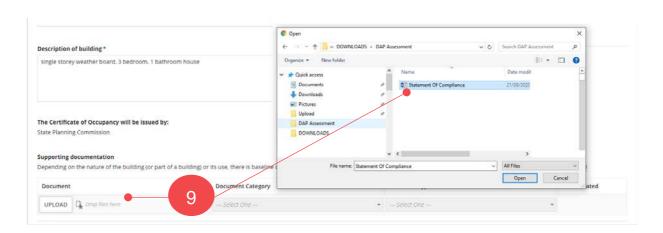
- 7. Leave the default **Description of the building** or make changes (as required).
- 8. The Certificate of Occupancy will be issued by: shows the name of the 'relevant authority' chosen to issue the Certificate of Occupancy (CoO).



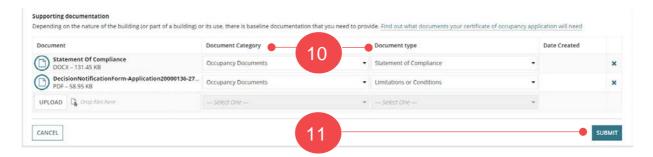
9. Upload the documentation in support of the Certificate of Occupancy from a folder location on your computer.

#### Supply a copy of the following documentation (but not limited to):

- Statement of Compliance
- Certificate of Compliance e.g., plumbing, electrical, services (unless already provided)
- Evidence conditions have been satisfied (when development has been approved subject to conditions)



- 10. Categorise the document(s) as either **building** or **occupancy** documents.
- 11. Select Submit to complete.



#### **Types of Building Documents**

Certificate of Occupancy
Inspection Outcome Report
Statement of Compliance

# Certificate of Occupancy application 'types of supporting documentation

Cert. Occupancy Request for Documentation

Certificate of Occupancy

Fire Report (i.e., Fire authority report)

Form 2 (i.e., Essential Safety Provisions (ESPs))

Limitations or Conditions

Statement of Compliance

Supporting Documentation

#### **View the Certificate of Occupancy Application Details**

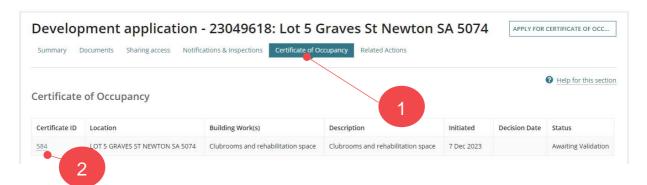
1. Within the displayed **Development Application** summary go to the **Certificate of Occupancy** tab to view the submitted application.

#### **Application Certificate of Occupancy tab**

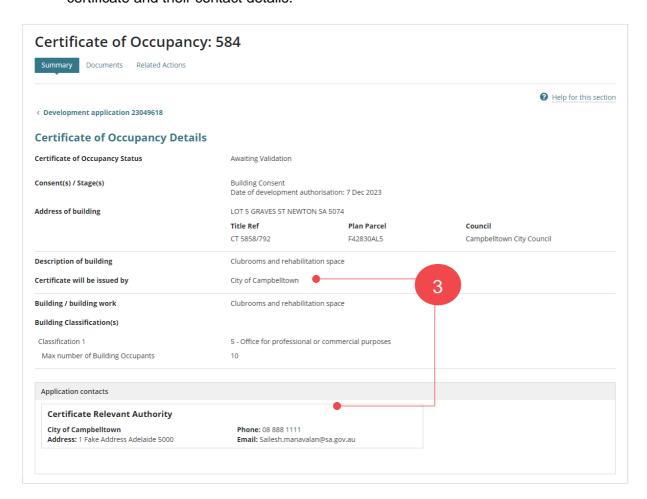
The Certificate of Occupancy tab shows only when a building/building work requires a Certificate of Occupancy (CoO).



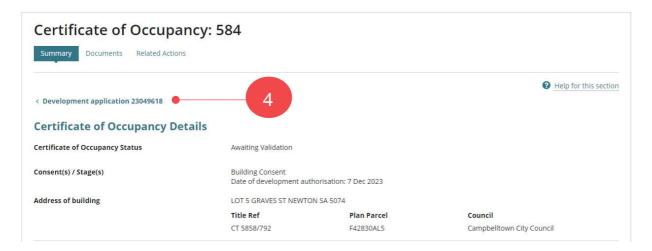
2. Click on **ID** number of the Certificate to view the details.



3. Within the **Certificate of Occupancy** screen, you can locate who will be issuing the certificate and their contact details.



Click on **Development Application** link to exit the Certificate of Occupancy details.



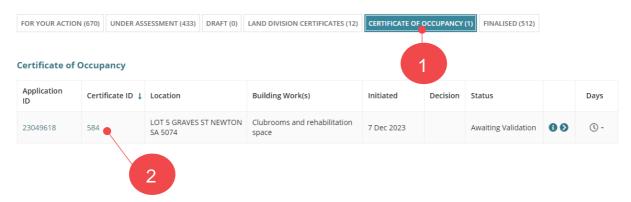
# 2. Track Certificate of Occupancy from your dashboard

At any point during the assessment of your application log in to your online account, to view the progress of your Certificate of Occupancy (CoO) application.

As the CoO application progresses through the assessment process the application will transition through several status. Refer to the table below to learn about each one.

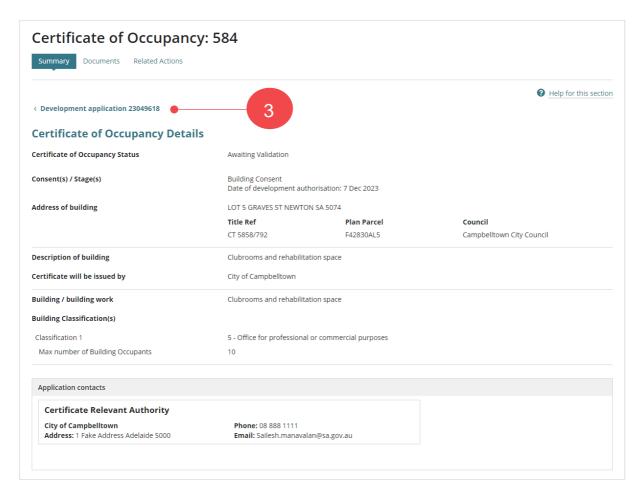
Status	Description and action to take (as required)	Time Frame
Awaiting validation	The CoO application has been received by the issuing relevant authority.	
Validation in Progress	The issuing relevant authority is processing your application, and you may be contacted if additional information is required.	
Awaiting Mandatory Document	The relevant authority has found that additional information is required from you. Upon supplying the required information, the relevant authority can continue processing your application.	
Awaiting Payment	The relevant authority has determined the fee payable to issue the CoO. Once you have paid the required fee, the CoO is issued.	
Awaiting Decision	Your CoO has been lodged and the relevant authority has 5 working days to issue the Certificate or reject. On completion of the assessment the CoO will be issued or refused, and you will be notified of the outcome.	5 working Days to issue or reject
Awaiting Fire Report	The relevant authority has specified a 'fire report' is required, and you have 15 working days to provide to the relevant authority. On receipt of the 'fire report' the relevant authority can continue processing your application.	15 working days to provide a fire report
Issued	CoO issued; your building is certified suitable for occupation. The certificate can be downloaded from your applications Documents store.	
Refused	CoO refused; any appeal against the decision must be filed within 28 days of receiving the refusal notice. You may appeal the relevant authorities' decision to refuse the certificate or submit a new application for issuing a CoO.	28 days after the refuse notice to appeal

- 1. Click on **Certificate of Occupancy** to view your application.
- 2. Click on ID number of the certificate to view the details.



The Certificate of Occupancy details display, and the Status will inform the action being performed. Refer to the table on **page 11** for the status descriptions.

3. Click on **Development Application** link to exit the Certificate of Occupancy details.



For more information visit plan.sa.gov.au

