



Plumbing newsflash

Plumbing licensing requirements—employee and contractor licences

Purpose

To advise of the licensing requirements for plumbers and drainers working as employees or as contractors.

Background

The department has received a number of enquiries seeking information on the licensing rules for plumbers and drainers who work as employees and those who want to work as contractors.

Legislation

- *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*
- Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003
- *Queensland Building Services Authority Act 1991*
- Queensland Building Services Authority Regulation 2003

Licensed provisional plumbers and provisional drainers can work as employees

Provisional plumber/drainers licences issued by the Plumbers and Drainers Board (the Board) allow licence holders to work as employees of a contractor plumber/drainers.

What if a provisional plumber and provisional drainer wants to work as a contractor?

To work as a contractor plumber/drainers the provisional licence holder must complete additional modules of training through a registered training organisation and apply to the Board for a plumbers and/or drainers licence.

Once licensed by the Board, the licence holder must also complete managerial and financial training approved by the Queensland Building Services Authority (QBSA) and then apply to the QBSA for a contractor licence.

Can a fully licensed plumber and drainer work as an employee?

A fully licensed plumber/drainers is able to work as an employee for a contractor plumber/drainers. There is no requirement for a licensed plumber/drainers to obtain a contractor licence when working only as an employee.

What work can a provisional plumber and provisional drainer working as an employee undertake?

A provisional plumber/drainers licence entitles the holder of that licence to undertake regulated plumbing/drainage work (except work for which an endorsement is required) under the general supervision of contract plumber/drainers.

It does not entitle the holder of that licence to submit tenders for work or to enter into a contract with a member of the general public to perform plumbing and drainage work.



What can a contractor plumber and contractor drainer do?

In addition to the scope of work for a provisional plumber/drainer, a contractor licence permits the holder of that licence to undertake tendered contract work with the public and employ appropriately licensed staff to undertake regulated plumbing and drainage work. Licensed persons who run a plumbing or drainage business require a contractor license.

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