

Board Response to submissions

As adopted by the Board on 15 September 2015

1. ISSUE 1

Should there be an additional “journeyman” class of registration introduced?

Response

The Board supports the creation of a journeyman class? It considers that those eligible for registration in that class should be:

- Those who have completed a New Zealand apprenticeship in the relevant trade but have not yet passed the registration exam.
- Those who are employed in the relevant trade and satisfy the Board that they have been employed for seven years in New Zealand and they are competent to do the relevant trade in the employment of and under the supervision of, a registered and licensed certifying tradesperson.

2. ISSUE 2

Should the work that people are permitted to do under the “exemption under supervision” provisions be restricted?

Response

The Board considers that this is a matter best dealt with as part of supervision and accordingly will progress it as proposed later in this document. The Board therefore will not be progressing this issue any further as part of the registration and licensing review.

3. ISSUE 3

Should there be other registration classes for people wanting to undertake just a limited range of plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying work?

Response

The Board does not support the creation of a class relating to the carrying out of sanitary plumbing associated with the construction of a dairy milking shed. The Board considers that competency issues arise in relation to the performance of any restricted work by such a class.

The Board does not support the creation of a class for Associated Trade Electrical to provide for those who install and repair appliances. The Board requests staff to investigate the inclusion of suitable associated tradesperson training as part of the qualification for plumbing and gasfitting.

The Board does not consider that the creation of a Training Provider Licence is necessary. It intends to deal with the issue by making it clear in limited certificates issued to trainees that they must perform any work under the supervision of their supervisor or a training provider. Staff are requested to fully investigate the implementation of such conditions and report further to the Board.

4. **ISSUE 4**

Should there be one or two classes of registration for qualified persons?

Response

The Board considers that two classes of registration should be retained-licensed and certifying.

5. **ISSUE 5**

Are the current registration class names appropriate?

Response

The Board proposes the following classes:

Certifying, Tradesman, Journeyman,

6. **ISSUE 6**

Should there be terms and conditions of registration?

Response

The Board proposes the following terms and conditions should be included as part of registration:

- A term and condition requiring a registered person to pay any monies owing to the Board as they become due, subject to any exceptions agreed to by the Board.

- A term and condition requiring a registered person to ensure they provide the Board with all information required for the public register.
- A general condition about behaving in such a way that you do not bring the industry into disrepute.

7 ISSUE 7

Should the certifying examination be part of a NZQA qualification?

Response

The Board shares the view of the industry that the certifying exam should be part of a NZQA qualification. It will now work with the Skills Organisation to investigate this issue further.

8. ISSUE 8

What changes (if any) should be made to the CPD scheme?

Response

The Board proposes a model of CPD with the following features:

- Implementation from 1 April 2016.
- 4-6 hours of mandatory training delivered to all licensed practitioners.
- Topics to be developed by a stakeholder reference group consisting of staff, industry and The Skills Organisation.
- Topics may include disciplinary concerns/risks, regulatory/legislative changes, health and safety, technical developments and other identified training needs.
- The Board has instructed staff to immediately consult on the proposed model.

9. ISSUE 9

What changes (if any) should be made to the supervision requirements?

Response

The Board considers that the best way of dealing with this issue is by:

- Develop guidance for the industry that clearly sets out the Boards expectations as to what is level of supervision is required.

- More actively target Supervision as part of the complaints and disciplinary process.
- Ensure that adequate training on Supervision is included as part of CPD.

The Board now intends to progress this matter outside of the registration and licensing review.

10. REMOVAL OF PATHWAYS TO REGISTRATION

Response

The following pathways will be removed

- The five year pathway that requires a person to have held a limited certificate under the 1976 Act for five years, or for three years under the 1976 Act and then to have worked under a section 19,21, or 25 exemption for two years (plus pass the relevant examination),
- The pathway that requires a plumber or gasfitter to have completed the third stage block course in the other trade (plus pass the relevant examination) to be registered in the other trade.

11. PROVISIONAL LICENCE HOLDERS

Response

The Board proposes requiring provisional licence holders/applicants to comply with the Board's standard continuing professional development requirements.

12. RECOGNITION OF OVERSEAS QUALIFICATIONS

Response

The Board does not have sufficient financial resources at this time to carry out a process of assessing qualifications from other countries to determine whether they should be recognised as being equivalent to a particular New Zealand minimum standard. The Board will continue to rely on NZQA to assess overseas trained tradespeople.

13. OTHER MATTERS RAISED

A number of other matters were raised by submitters.

13.1 High Cost of licensing and registration

Response

The board remains committed to keeping its costs as low as possible whilst still being able to perform its statutory functions. The Board notes a number of initiatives are under way in relation to the complaints and discipline process to try and increase its efficiency and decrease its cost.

13.2 Photo ID

Response

The Board intends to introduce Photo IDs from 1 April 2017.

13.3 Unauthorised work

Response

The Board notes that it is planning to increase its surveillance of unauthorised work by employing a full time investigator. It also intends to consider an increased focus on this area as part of its review of its 2016-19 strategic plan.

13.4 Simplification

Response

The Board remains committed to simplifying its processes and the system of licensing and registration as much as possible while still fulfilling its statutory duties.

13.5 Overseas people

Response

The Board will continue to rely on NZQA to assess overseas trained tradespeople. But will also continue to look for other costs efficient and effective ways of establishing equivalency of qualifications.

13.6 Training related

Response

The Board notes the frustration of some with the training pathways. The Board is of the view that some of the proposed changes to classes will deal with some of the issues raised. The Board will continue to work with Skills to improve the training that is provided.

13.7 Miscellaneous

Response

Other issues were raised as part of the first round of consultation. The Board is focused on dealing with the issues raised above. Therefore, it does not have the resources to deal with any of those other matters specifically at this time. However, the Board will deal with all issues as time and resources allow.