

Building and Plumbing Newsflash

564

Have your say: Implementation of new mechanical services licensing framework

Purpose

This newsflash calls for feedback on the consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) regarding the implementation of a new mechanical services licensing framework.

Background

Mechanical services work involves the mechanical heating or cooling of commercial and residential buildings using motors, machines or the flow of temperature-controlled fluids, for example air conditioning, refrigeration and air handling systems or boilers. Mechanical services work also includes medical gas work.

Mechanical services systems contribute to the overall health, safety and comfort of the community and can have fatal consequences if incorrectly installed or maintained.

As a part of the Queensland Building Plan, industry was consulted about the proposed introduction of a mechanical services licensing framework. Industry feedback resulted in a Queensland-specific licensing model being developed, which recognises the specialist streams:

- mechanical services - medical gas
- mechanical services - air-conditioning and refrigeration systems (limited and unlimited design)
- mechanical services - plumbing.

On 11 September 2018, a new licensing framework for mechanical services work was created under the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991* (QBCC Act).

While the QBCC Act establishes the licensing framework, the technical aspects of the licences will be prescribed through the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Regulation 2018* (QBCC Regulation). The licensing provisions will commence on a date yet to be announced by government.

Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement

On 6 June 2019, a consultation RIS was released inviting feedback on the following technical details of the licensing framework to be included in the QBCC Regulation:

- licence classes
- scopes of work
- eligibility requirements (including technical qualifications)
- transitional arrangements.

It is anticipated the new licensing framework will commence from 1 January 2020. However, those already performing mechanical services work will be provided an additional two years to meet the licensing eligibility requirements.

Feedback received through this consultation process will assist in refining the QBCC Regulation 2018.



**Queensland
Government**

Have your say

We encourage you to read the Consultation RIS and complete an online survey.

Both are available at www.yoursayhpw.engagementhq.com/mechanical-services-licensing.

Consultation closes **5pm, Friday 5 July 2019**.

Contact for further information

Building Legislation and Policy

Department of Housing and Public Works

Email: BLP@hpw.qld.gov.au

If you have not received this newsflash directly from Building Legislation and Policy, you can subscribe via bcqnewsflash@qld.gov.au.