

# Building and Plumbing Newsflash 581

New and proposed changes to the Technical Qualifications for Licensing document relevant to mechanical services licences and the new fire protection licensing framework

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## Purpose

To advise that the following technical qualifications documents have been published on the department's website:

- the proposed technical qualifications for the new fire protection licensing framework
- an amended version of the Technical Qualifications for Licensing document (TQ document) for mechanical services licences.

## Background

### *Fire protection licensing*

The [Queensland Building and Construction Commission and Other Legislation \(Fire Protection Licensing\) Amendment Regulation 2020](#) (Amendment Regulation) will amend the QBCC Regulation on 1 May 2021 to introduce a revised fire protection licensing framework.

The proposed technical qualifications for the new fire protection licence classes are a draft extract only and are **not currently in effect**. They have been published to help ensure industry readiness and provide new industry entrants and registered training organisations time to prepare for the changes. It is intended that the changes will take effect from 1 May 2021 to align with commencement of the revised licensing framework.

The proposed changes will enhance skills and technical qualifications across the fire protection licence classes. Key changes include requiring:

- managerial units of competencies for contractor qualifications, which will assist with business practices
- the Diploma of Fire System Design for new design licences under the electrical and water-based streams
- passive certify licensees to complete a certificate IV in fire system compliance and an apprenticeship in carpentry or wall and ceiling lining
- passive install and maintain licensees to complete a trade qualification, i.e. carpentry or wall and ceiling lining in addition to fire protection competencies.

### *Mechanical services licensing*

Since the mechanical services licensing framework commenced on 1 January 2020 two energy efficiency units of competency (UEENEEE110A and UEENEEJ136A) have been mandated for the mechanical services – air-conditioning and refrigeration (unlimited) licence class (contractor and nominee supervisor only). The two units of competency are electives in the Diploma of Air-conditioning and Refrigeration Engineering (UEE51211), which is the prescribed qualification for this licence class.

The packaging rules for the prescribed Diploma for this licence class do not permit participants to complete critical design subjects in addition to the two energy efficiency competency units, without completing a separate course and paying additional course fees. To address this, version 6 of the TQ document, which came into effect on 28 January 2021, amends the technical qualifications for the mechanical services – air-conditioning and refrigeration (unlimited) contractor and nominee supervisor licences with the mandated energy efficiency units removed.

## More information

For more information about the changes:

- visit the [Department of Energy and Public Works website](#).
- visit the [fire protection licensing changes web page](#).
- visit the [technical qualifications for QBCC licensing web page](#).

For specific information about individual licences and impacts for existing licensees:

- visit the [Queensland Building and Construction Commission website](#).
- submit an [online enquiry to the QBCC](#).
- call the QBCC on 139 333.

## Contact us

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