

# Building and Plumbing Newsflash 631

## Transition of technical qualifications for licensing

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### Purpose

To inform stakeholders about the transfer of responsibility for setting technical qualifications for plumbing, drainage, and pool safety inspector licenses from the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) to the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works (the department).

### Background

As part of the Queensland Government's commitment to improving the building and construction industry, the responsibility for setting technical qualifications for plumbing, drainage, and pool safety inspector licenses has been transferred from the QBCC to the department, effective 1 July 2024.

This change aligns with the recommendations from the [QBCC Governance Review 2022 Report](#), which aimed to clarify the separate roles and responsibilities of the QBCC and the department.

The transfer of responsibility ensures that policy functions are performed by the department, while the QBCC remains responsible for regulatory functions. This change streamlines the decision-making process and ensures greater consistency in the setting of technical qualification requirements for all QBCC licensees.

### Legislation changes

The *Building Industry Fairness and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024* (the Act) was passed to facilitate the transfer of responsibility.

The Act amends the *Building Act 1975*, *Plumbing and Drainage Act* the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991* to reflect the new arrangements for setting technical qualification requirements for licences.

### Key changes

The chief executive of the department is now responsible for deciding and publishing the relevant qualifications and practical experience required for plumbing, drainage, and pool safety inspector licenses and endorsements.

The technical qualifications for these licenses are now published on the [Business Queensland web page](#).

The previous decisions by the QBCC Commissioner regarding qualifications and practical experience for these licenses and endorsements continue to apply as if they were approved by the department's chief executive.

### Impact on existing licence holders

Existing plumbing, drainage, and pool safety inspector licenses and endorsements issued by the QBCC before the transfer remain valid for the time of the licence or endorsement. The transitional arrangements ensure a smooth transfer of responsibilities and minimise disruptions to the industry.

## More information

For more information about the changes, please visit the [Business Queensland web page](#) or contact the department at [buildingpolicy@epw.qld.gov.au](mailto:buildingpolicy@epw.qld.gov.au).

If you are a licence holder and have an enquiry about your licence, visit [www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/contact-us](http://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/contact-us).

The [Plumbing and Drainage Act 2018](#) and the [Building Act 1975](#) are available on the Queensland Government legislation website.

## Contact us

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