

New eligibility requirements for electrical contractor licences

On 1 January 2019 new requirements commenced for Queensland electrical contractor licences. These changes build on the additional training requirements for qualified technical persons (QTP) and qualified business persons (QBP) introduced on 1 July 2018.

The new requirements apply to all new licence applications or when a licence holder wishes to add another QTP or QBP to an existing licence.

QTPs and QBPs on existing licences will not be affected, unless there has been disciplinary action taken against them by the Electrical Licensing Committee or they wish to be added to another licence.

Qualified technical person (QTP)

From 1 January 2019 QTP nominees for new licences must hold a current Queensland electrical mechanic work licence for at least **two years**. Interstate licence holders need to apply for a Queensland licence but will have time recognised from when they obtained their original licence. QTP nominees must also have completed, within the last three years, the following units of competency:

- UEENEEG197A - Apply currency of safe working practices and compliance verification of electrical installations
- UEENEEG122A - Conduct compliance inspection of single phase LV electrical installations
- UEENEEG123A - Conduct compliance inspection of LV electrical installations with demand exceeding 100 A per phase.

Qualified business person (QBP)

From 1 January 2019 QBP nominees for new licences must have completed, within the last three years, the following units of competency:

- UEENEEE101A - Apply Occupational Health and Safety regulations, codes and practices in the workplace, and
- UEENEEG175A - Develop compliance policies and plans to conduct an electrical contracting business,

And either

- completed BSBSMB401 - Establish legal and risk management requirements of small business (within the last three years) or
- hold an Australian business qualification at Diploma level or higher (e.g. Bachelor of Business) regardless of when the qualification was obtained or
- provide evidence of five years' experience of operating or managing a business.

The new requirements apply:

- to all new licence applications, including when individual licence holders (sole traders) re-apply for a licence as a company
- whenever a licence holder wishes to add another QTP or QBP to an existing licence. The new requirements may also be imposed as a result of disciplinary action taken by the Electrical Licensing Committee.

QTPs and QBPs on existing licences will not currently need to meet the new requirements while they continue to remain the QTP or QBP on that licence.

Mutual recognition

Under mutual recognition current interstate electrical contractor licence holders issued to an individual (sole trader) will still be eligible for a Queensland electrical contractor licence (as a sole trader only) without meeting the new requirements. However, they will need to obtain a Queensland electrical work licence as part of the application process.

Restricted electrical contractor licences

The changes do not affect eligibility requirements for restricted electrical contractor licences.

More information

Call the Electrical Safety Office on 1300 632 993 or visit electricalsafety.qld.gov.au.