



Information sheet

Requirements for migrant plumbers in Western Australia

Australia has strict safety standards and requirements for licensed trade occupations. Skills assessments for migrants are overseen by the Commonwealth Government agency, Trades Recognition Australia (TRA), with occupational licensing managed by each state and territory.

A licence is required to work as a Plumber (General) in Western Australia. The following information sets out the steps required to get a licence.

Step 1: Get an Offshore Technical Skills Record (OTSR)

An OTSR records the technical skills demonstrated against the relevant Australian vocational education and training (VET) qualification. To get an OTSR, you must complete a skills assessment through a TRA approved registered training organisation (RTO).

- To view approved WA RTOs, [visit the RTO Finder on TRA's website](#).

The skills assessment process includes several stages.

- 1 **Documentary evidence assessment** to review your qualifications and experience.
- 2 **Technical interview** to assess your technical knowledge.
- 3 **Practical assessment** where you do work-based tasks to show your plumbing skills.

The technical and practical assessments can be completed in your home country, if your RTO has a local facility. Otherwise, these assessments need to be completed in Australia.

- Further information on the skills assessment process is [available on the TRA website](#).

Step 2: Get a provisional licence

Once you receive your OTSR, you will be able to apply for a Provisional Tradesperson's Licence through the Western Australian Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS). A Provisional Tradesperson's Licence is issued by the Plumbers Licensing Board, which is a section of LGIRS.

Once you receive your Provisional Tradesperson's Licence you can start working under the supervision of a licensed plumbing contractor or the holder of a Tradesperson's Licence for up to 12 months, while you complete the Australian context gap training.

- [You can find more information on how to apply for a Provisional Tradesperson's Licence on the LGIRS website](#).



Step 3: Undertake Australian context training

The assessment process for OTSR is to assess your technical skills, however there is also important knowledge specific to the Australian industry such as work health and safety regulations, codes of practice and other Australian standards that you will not have gained as an overseas trained plumber.

You must complete Australian context training to meet Australian industry requirements by completing either the full *Certificate III in Plumbing* qualification (CPC32420) or the *Course in Migrant Plumbing* (52915WA).

52915WA Course in Migrant Plumbing

The 52915WA *Course in Migrant Plumbing* addresses gaps in migrant plumbers' knowledge to the Australian context. The course ensures that the Australian Standards are understood, using a blend of theory and practical tasks. There are eight units of competency in the course, as follows.

- CPCPCM2043 Carry out WHS requirements;
- CPCPWT3022 Install and commission water heating systems and adjust controls and devices;
- CPCPDR2026 Install prefabricated inspection openings and inspection chambers;
- CPCPDR3021 Plan layout and install below ground sanitary drainage systems;
- CPCPDR3023 Install on-site domestic wastewater treatment plants and disposal systems;
- CPCPSN3022 Install discharge pipes;
- CPCPCM3024 Prepare simple drawings; and
- CPCPSN3025 Install pre-treatment facilities.

As well as the units listed above, you also need to complete a minimum of 500 hours of work-based experience over eight months. Evidence of your work-based experience needs to be recorded in a logbook, and signed by the supervisor and the RTO.

There are some pre-requisites that you must complete before you start the *Course in Migrant Plumbing*.

In addition to having an OTSR, a Provisional Tradesperson's Licence and working with a fully licensed plumber, you will also need to have:

- a Unique Student Identifier (USI) Number (usi.gov.au);
- completed HLTAID011 Provide First Aid;
- proof of ID (driver's licence or passport); and
- a copy of Construction Induction Training Card (White Card).

At the time of publishing this information, the 52915WA *Course in Migrant Plumbing* is being delivered by the following WA RTOs.

- [North Metropolitan TAFE](#)
- [NextGenSkills \(Formerly MPA Skills\)](#)

Further information on course availability, location, duration and course fees are available



through the website links above. For up to date information about WA RTOs delivering 52915WA *Course in Migrant Plumbing*, you can [visit the training.gov.au website](https://training.gov.au).

Step 4: Apply for an Australian occupational licence

Once you have completed either the full *Certificate III in Plumbing* qualification or the *Course in Migrant Plumbing*, you can [apply for a Plumbing Tradesperson's licence with LGIRS](#).

If you wish to work with gas, [you will also require a G Class Gas Permit](#).

If you are interested in supervising or certifying plumbing work, or submitting notices to the Plumbers' Licensing Board, you can [apply for a plumbing contractor's licence](#) which may require further training.

For further information on the licensing of plumbers in other Australian states and territories [visit Trades Recognition Australia's website](#).

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