



**National
Institute of
Construction
Skills**

Student QBCC Licencing INFORMATION HANDBOOK

**National Institute of Construction Skills (NICs)
RTO Number: 30048**

Some training programs delivered by the National Institute of Construction Skills (NICS) support the technical knowledge and competency requirements associated with licensing in the Queensland building and construction industry. Licensing for building work in Queensland is administered by the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC). A QBCC licence may be required for individuals who personally perform, supervise, or contract for certain types of building work, including fire protection systems. To apply for a licence, applicants must meet specific eligibility requirements set by the QBCC, which may include demonstrating appropriate technical qualifications, relevant industry experience, managerial capability, financial requirements (for contractor licences), and being considered a “fit and proper person.”

Completion of training with NICS may contribute toward meeting some of the technical qualification requirements for a licence; however, licensing decisions are made by the QBCC and additional requirements may apply.

QBCC Passive Fire Protection – Occupational Licence Requirements

Under the QBCC fire protection licensing framework, fire protection work is divided into several streams (passive, water-based, electrical, portable and special hazards). Each stream may include licence classes such as install and maintain, inspect and test, or certify depending on the scope of work.

Below are the main occupational licence classes within the Passive Fire Protection stream.

1. Fire Protection – Passive Stream – Inspect and Test (Occupational Licence)

This licence allows an individual to inspect and test passive fire protection systems and equipment.

Typical scope of work

- Identify and inspect passive fire and smoke containment systems
- Inspect fire and smoke doors, seals, and fire-rated penetrations
- Test passive fire system performance and compliance
- Report defects or non-compliance with fire protection systems

Typical QBCC requirements

Applicants generally must demonstrate:

- Technical qualifications relevant to passive fire protection systems (e.g. nationally recognised units or qualifications).
- Industry experience showing they have performed or supervised relevant work.
- Evidence they are a fit and proper person to hold a licence.
- Evidence of identity and licensing application documentation.
- Additional requirements depending on licence type.

Relevant units often associated with this licence include:

- CPPFES2039 – Identify, inspect and test passive fire and smoke containment products and systems
- CPPFES2035 – Identify, inspect and test fire and smoke doors

2. Fire Protection – Passive Stream – Certify (Occupational Licence)

This licence allows an individual to certify that passive fire protection systems meet regulatory requirements.

Typical scope of work

- Assess passive fire systems for compliance with regulations and standards
- Certify that passive fire systems have been installed or maintained correctly
- Provide formal documentation confirming compliance

Typical QBCC requirements

Applicants must generally demonstrate:

- Relevant technical qualifications or industry-recognised competencies.

- Relevant industry experience in passive fire protection systems.
- Compliance with fit and proper person requirements.
- Evidence of skills and knowledge relevant to the licence scope.

Additional Licensing Considerations

Licensing streams

QBCC fire protection licences are grouped into several streams including:

- Passive fire protection
- Water-based fire systems
- Fire protection electrical systems
- Portable fire equipment
- Special hazard fire systems

Who must hold a licence

Individuals who personally perform or supervise fire protection work may be required to hold a relevant QBCC licence unless an exemption applies (for example, apprentices working under supervision).

Technical qualifications

Applicants must demonstrate they have the appropriate trade skills and technical qualifications relevant to the licence class being applied for. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) may be used to demonstrate equivalent competency where formal qualifications differ.

Experience requirements

Applicants may need to demonstrate relevant industry experience, including evidence that they have personally performed or supervised relevant fire protection work.

Important for students:

Completion of training or units of competency with NICS does not automatically grant a QBCC licence. Students must apply directly to the QBCC and meet all licensing eligibility requirements.

QBCC Licensing – Painting and Decorating

In Queensland, individuals and businesses who carry out painting and decorating work above the monetary threshold set by legislation must hold an appropriate licence issued by the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC). Licensing ensures that work is completed by appropriately qualified and experienced individuals who meet regulatory, safety, and industry standards.

Completion of a relevant Certificate III qualification in Painting and Decorating, together with appropriate industry experience, may contribute toward meeting the technical qualification requirements for certain licence classes.

However, all licensing decisions are made by the QBCC, and applicants must satisfy all eligibility requirements set by the regulator. These requirements may vary depending on the licence type being applied for, such as Contractor, Nominee Supervisor, or Site Supervisor.

QBCC Painting and Decorating Licence Classes

Contractor Licence – Painting and Decorating

A Contractor Licence allows a person or business to enter into contracts and perform painting and decorating building work in Queensland.

Typical requirements include:

- Relevant **technical qualification** (e.g., Certificate III in Painting and Decorating or equivalent recognised qualification)

- Demonstrated **industry experience** in painting and decorating work
- Successful completion of **managerial capability requirements** (often through an approved business management course)
- Meeting **financial requirements** and minimum financial thresholds
- Being considered a **fit and proper person** by the QBCC
- Holding appropriate business registration (if operating as a company or partnership)

Nominee Supervisor Licence – Painting and Decorating

A Nominee Supervisor Licence is held by an individual who supervises building work on behalf of a licensed company.

Typical requirements include:

- Relevant trade qualification in painting and decorating
- Demonstrated industry experience supervising or performing painting work
- Ability to ensure work complies with building legislation, safety requirements, and contract obligations
- Being considered a fit and proper person

Nominee supervisors are responsible for ensuring that work carried out by the licensed company meets the relevant regulatory and quality standards.

Site Supervisor Licence – Painting and Decorating

A Site Supervisor Licence allows an individual to personally supervise painting and decorating work but does not allow them to contract directly with clients.

Typical requirements include:

- Relevant technical qualification (such as Certificate III in Painting and Decorating)
- Relevant industry experience
- Demonstrated ability to supervise workers and ensure work is carried out safely and to required standards
- Compliance with QBCC licensing eligibility requirements

Important Information for Students

Completing a qualification with NICS may assist students in meeting some of the technical qualification requirements for a QBCC painting and decorating licence.

However:

- Licensing eligibility is determined solely by the QBCC.
- Additional requirements such as industry experience, financial criteria, and managerial competency may apply.
- Students must apply directly to the QBCC and provide the required evidence when seeking a licence.

Students are encouraged to review the current licensing requirements directly with the Queensland Building and Construction Commission, as regulatory requirements may change.

QBCC Licensing – Solid Plastering

In Queensland, individuals or businesses undertaking certain types of plastering work above the legislated monetary threshold must hold an appropriate licence issued by the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC). Licensing ensures that building work is performed by appropriately qualified and experienced individuals who meet regulatory, safety, and industry standards.

Completion of a relevant Certificate III qualification in Solid Plastering, together with suitable industry experience, may contribute toward meeting the technical qualification requirements for specific QBCC licence classes.

However, licensing decisions are made by the QBCC, and applicants must meet all eligibility criteria established by the regulator. These requirements vary depending on the licence class being applied for, such as Contractor, Nominee Supervisor, or Site Supervisor.

Contractor Licence – Solid Plastering

A Contractor Licence allows a person or business to contract directly with clients to perform solid plastering building work.

Typical requirements include:

- Relevant technical qualification, such as a Certificate III in Solid Plastering or an equivalent recognised qualification
- Demonstrated industry experience performing solid plastering work
- Completion of managerial capability requirements (e.g. business management course approved by the QBCC)
- Meeting QBCC financial requirements applicable to contractor licences
- Being considered a fit and proper person under QBCC eligibility rules
- Holding appropriate business registration where applicable

Nominee Supervisor Licence – Solid Plastering

A Nominee Supervisor Licence applies where a licensed company appoints an individual to supervise the building work carried out under that company's contractor licence.

Typical requirements include:

- Relevant trade qualification in solid plastering
- Demonstrated industry experience performing or supervising plastering work
- Ability to oversee building work and ensure compliance with legislation, safety standards, and contractual requirements
- Meeting QBCC fit and proper person eligibility criteria

Nominee supervisors are responsible for ensuring that work completed by the licensed entity complies with the required standards and regulations.

Site Supervisor Licence – Solid Plastering

A Site Supervisor Licence allows an individual to supervise solid plastering work on building projects but does not permit the individual to contract directly with clients.

Typical requirements include:

- Relevant technical qualification, such as Certificate III in Solid Plastering
- Demonstrated industry experience in plastering work
- Ability to supervise workers and ensure work is carried out safely and in accordance with relevant building standards
- Meeting QBCC licensing eligibility requirements

Important Information for Students

Training completed with NICS may assist students in meeting some of the technical qualification requirements for a QBCC solid plastering licence. However, holding a qualification does not automatically grant a licence.

Applicants must apply directly to the Queensland Building and Construction Commission and satisfy all licensing criteria, which may include demonstrating industry experience, managerial capability, financial requirements (for contractor licences), and being deemed a fit and proper person.

Students are encouraged to check the current licensing requirements directly with the QBCC, as licensing rules and eligibility requirements may change.

QBCC Licensing – Wall & Ceiling Lining

Completion of a relevant Certificate III qualification in Wall and Ceiling Lining, together with appropriate industry experience, may contribute toward meeting the technical qualification requirements for QBCC licensing. However, the QBCC determines all licensing eligibility and applicants must meet the requirements set by the regulator. These requirements vary depending on the licence class being applied for, including Contractor, Nominee Supervisor, or Site Supervisor licences.

QBCC Wall and Ceiling Lining Licence Classes

Contractor Licence – Wall and Ceiling Lining

A Contractor Licence allows an individual or business to contract directly with clients to perform wall and ceiling lining building work.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant technical qualification, such as a Certificate III in Wall and Ceiling Lining or an equivalent recognised qualification
- Demonstrated industry experience performing wall and ceiling lining work
- Completion of managerial capability requirements (for example an approved business management course)
- Meeting QBCC minimum financial requirements applicable to contractor licences
- Being assessed as a fit and proper person under QBCC eligibility criteria
- Appropriate business registration where operating as a company or partnership

Nominee Supervisor Licence – Wall and Ceiling Lining

A Nominee Supervisor Licence is required when a licensed company appoints an individual to supervise building work carried out under that company's contractor licence.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant trade qualification in wall and ceiling lining
- Demonstrated industry experience in performing or supervising lining work
- The ability to supervise workers and ensure building work complies with relevant legislation, safety requirements, and building standards
- Meeting QBCC fit and proper person requirements

Nominee supervisors play a key role in ensuring that building work carried out under the company licence meets regulatory and quality standards.

Site Supervisor Licence – Wall and Ceiling Lining

A Site Supervisor Licence allows an individual to supervise wall and ceiling lining work on building projects but does not permit the individual to enter into contracts directly with clients.

Typical requirements include:

- Relevant technical qualification, such as Certificate III in Wall and Ceiling Lining
- Demonstrated industry experience within the wall and ceiling lining trade
- Ability to supervise workers and ensure work is completed safely and in accordance with building regulations and workplace safety requirements
- Meeting QBCC licensing eligibility criteria

Important Information for Students

Completing a qualification with NICIS may assist students in meeting some of the technical qualification requirements for a QBCC wall and ceiling lining licence. However, holding a qualification alone does not automatically grant a licence.

Students must apply directly to the Queensland Building and Construction Commission and demonstrate that they meet all licensing criteria, which may include industry experience, managerial capability, financial requirements (for contractor licences), and fit and proper person requirements.

Students should always check the current licensing requirements with the QBCC, as licensing rules and eligibility criteria may change.

QBCC Licensing – Wall & Ceiling Lining

In Queensland, individuals or businesses undertaking certain types of tiling work above the legislated monetary threshold must hold an appropriate licence issued by the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC). Licensing helps ensure that building work is carried out by qualified and experienced professionals who meet regulatory, safety, and industry standards.

Completion of a relevant Certificate III qualification in Wall and Floor Tiling, together with appropriate industry experience, may contribute toward meeting the technical qualification requirements for QBCC licensing. However, licensing eligibility and approval are determined by the QBCC, and applicants must meet all criteria established by the regulator. These requirements vary depending on the licence class being applied for, such as Contractor, Nominee Supervisor, or Site Supervisor.

QBCC Wall and Floor Tiling Licence Classes

Contractor Licence – Wall and Floor Tiling

A Contractor Licence allows a person or business to enter into contracts directly with clients to carry out wall and floor tiling building work.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant technical qualification, such as a Certificate III in Wall and Floor Tiling or an equivalent recognised qualification
- Demonstrated industry experience performing wall and floor tiling work
- Completion of managerial capability requirements (for example, an approved business management course)
- Meeting QBCC minimum financial requirements for contractor licences
- Being assessed as a fit and proper person under QBCC eligibility criteria
- Appropriate business registration where operating as a company or partnership

Nominee Supervisor Licence – Wall and Floor Tiling

A Nominee Supervisor Licence is required when a licensed company appoints an individual to supervise building work carried out under that company's contractor licence.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant trade qualification in wall and floor tiling
- Demonstrated industry experience performing or supervising tiling work
- The ability to supervise workers and ensure work complies with building legislation, safety standards, and contractual requirements
- Meeting QBCC fit and proper person eligibility criteria

Nominee supervisors are responsible for ensuring that building work undertaken by the licensed entity meets regulatory and quality standards.

Site Supervisor Licence – Wall and Floor Tiling

A Site Supervisor Licence allows an individual to supervise wall and floor tiling work on building projects but does not permit the individual to enter into contracts directly with clients.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant technical qualification, such as Certificate III in Wall and Floor Tiling
- Demonstrated industry experience in the tiling trade
- The ability to supervise workers and ensure work is carried out safely and in accordance with relevant building codes and standards
- Meeting QBCC licensing eligibility requirements

Important Information for Students

Completing a qualification with NICS may assist students in meeting some of the technical qualification requirements for a QBCC wall and floor tiling licence. However, holding a qualification alone does not automatically grant a licence.

Students must apply directly to the Queensland Building and Construction Commission and demonstrate that they meet all licensing criteria, which may include industry experience, managerial capability, financial requirements (for contractor licences), and fit and proper person requirements.

Students should always confirm the current licensing requirements with the QBCC, as licensing rules and eligibility criteria may change.

QBCC Licensing – Wall & Ceiling Lining

In Queensland, individuals or businesses undertaking certain waterproofing work above the legislated monetary threshold must hold an appropriate licence issued by the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC). Licensing helps ensure that waterproofing work is performed by qualified and experienced professionals who meet regulatory, safety, and industry standards.

Completion of a relevant Certificate III qualification in Construction Waterproofing, together with appropriate industry experience, may contribute toward meeting the technical qualification requirements for QBCC licensing. However, licensing eligibility and approval are determined by the QBCC, and applicants must satisfy all requirements established by the regulator. These requirements vary depending on the licence class being applied for, including Contractor, Nominee Supervisor, or Site Supervisor licences.

QBCC Construction Waterproofing Licence Classes

Contractor Licence – Construction Waterproofing

A Contractor Licence allows a person or business to contract directly with clients to perform construction waterproofing work.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant technical qualification, such as a Certificate III in Construction Waterproofing or an equivalent recognised qualification
- Demonstrated industry experience performing waterproofing work
- Completion of managerial capability requirements, often through an approved business management course
- Meeting QBCC minimum financial requirements for contractor licences
- Being assessed as a fit and proper person under QBCC eligibility criteria
- Appropriate business registration where operating as a company or partnership

Nominee Supervisor Licence – Construction Waterproofing

A Nominee Supervisor Licence applies where a licensed company appoints an individual to supervise building work carried out under that company's contractor licence.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant trade qualification in construction waterproofing
- Demonstrated industry experience performing or supervising waterproofing work
- The ability to supervise workers and ensure work complies with building legislation, Australian Standards, and workplace safety requirements
- Meeting QBCC fit and proper person eligibility requirements

Nominee supervisors are responsible for ensuring that waterproofing work undertaken by the licensed entity complies with regulatory requirements and industry standards.

Site Supervisor Licence – Construction Waterproofing

A Site Supervisor Licence allows an individual to supervise construction waterproofing work on building projects but does not permit the individual to contract directly with clients.

Typical requirements include:

- A relevant technical qualification, such as Certificate III in Construction Waterproofing
- Demonstrated industry experience within the waterproofing trade
- The ability to supervise workers and ensure work is carried out safely and in accordance with relevant building codes, standards, and regulatory requirements
- Meeting QBCC licensing eligibility criteria

Important Information for Students

Completing a qualification with NICS may assist students in meeting some of the technical qualification requirements for a QBCC construction waterproofing licence. However, holding a qualification alone does not automatically grant a licence.

Students must apply directly to the Queensland Building and Construction Commission and demonstrate that they meet all licensing criteria, which may include industry experience, managerial capability, financial requirements (for contractor licences), and fit and proper person requirements.

Students should always confirm the current licensing requirements with the QBCC, as licensing rules and eligibility criteria may change.

All reasonable care has been taken by NICS (RTO 30048) to ensure the information contained in this information handbook is accurate and current at the time of publication.

However, regulatory requirements, licensing conditions, government funding programs, and industry guidelines may change from time to time. NICS does not accept responsibility for notifying students of changes made by external regulators or government agencies after publication of this document.

Students are encouraged to refer directly to the official regulatory websites and links provided below to ensure they are accessing the most up-to-date and accurate information relevant to licensing, training requirements, and industry regulations.

Below is a clean list of official QBCC webpages that align with the licence classes you referenced in your NICS Student Handbook sections. These links are useful to include as further reading or regulatory references for students.

QBCC Licence Information Links

General QBCC Licensing Information

- QBCC – Apply for a licence
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence>
- QBCC – Eligibility requirements for licensing
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/eligibility-requirements>
- QBCC – Technical qualifications required for licensing
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/eligibility-requirements/technical-qualifications>
- QBCC – Experience requirements
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/eligibility-requirements/experience>
- QBCC – Managerial qualifications (required for contractor or nominee supervisor licences)
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/eligibility-requirements/managerial-qualifications>
- QBCC – Available licence classes (overview)
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/available-licences>

QBCC Trade Licence Pages (Relevant to NICS Qualifications)

- Painting and Decorating Licence
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/available-licences/other-trade/painting-decorating>
- Wall and Floor Tiling Licence
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/available-licences/other-trade/wall-floor-tiling>
- Waterproofing Licence
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/licences/apply-licence/available-licences/other-trade/waterproofing>

The QBCC lists a range of additional trade licence classes including plastering, lining and other construction trades that may be relevant to construction training programs.

QBCC Licence Application Forms (Useful for Students)

- Contractor or Nominee Supervisor Licence Application Form
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/resources/form/contractor-nominee-supervisor-trade-classes-licence-application-form>
- Site Supervisor Licence Application Form
<https://www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/form-licence-application-site-supervisor.pdf>

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Authorship and Approval

Name	Position	Role	Action Date
Lauree Skene	RTO Compliance Coordinator	Co Author	08/03/2026

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Five (5)	08/03/2026 L. Skene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reformatted and implemented changes to structure and layout based on the NICS 2026 Master style guide including reviewed document naming convention. Review of terminology to maintain consistency in student information documentation. Implementation of recommendation of hyperlinks to website as discussed in recent continuous improvement session in Feb 2026 with trainers & assessors.
Four (4)	13/10/2025 L. Skene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of document to include more information on each trade / industry inline with the 2025 RTO Standards on providing clear and concise information to students.
Three (3)	05/11/2024 T. Aitken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual of website / Licencing changes
Two (2)	05/06/2023 T. Aitken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revision of document using recommended template etc.
One (1)	21/12/2021 T. Aitken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of document

Distribution List

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