Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board

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9197 Drainlayer registration examination guide

This guide contains information about the 9197 Drainlayer registration exam. See our website for all exam information and forms.

About the exam

- This is a Board exam which is managed by Aspeq. For any changes to your exam please contact Aspeq directly.
- The exam is electronic with all questions presented electronically.
- You are expected to answer examination questions in accordance with the Acts, Regulations and Codes outlined in this document.
- The pass mark is 60%.

Exam purpose

An exam pass is one of requirements for registration as a drainlayer under the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 2006 ("the Act').

Sitting the exam

The Board's registration exams are completed on a computer at a testing centre. See Aspeq's venue locations.

The exam is open book

The following resources will be provided to candidates when sitting the exam:

- G13: Foul Water
- AS/NZS 3500.2 – Sanitary plumbing and drainage

Candidates can refer to these documents when answering the questions. These documents are provided in PDF format only. Candidates can apply for a hardcopy of the resources, by applying for special assessment conditions.

By providing candidates with resources, we aim to assess the candidate's ability to use and apply codes and standards, as well as their knowledge of the regulatory environment related to drainlaying work.

While no specific weighting is given to assessing this ability and knowledge within the exam, candidates should be aware that questions may be asked to cover this aspect outside the outlined topics referred to on the weightings table on **page 3**.

What is in the exam

Your exam will be generated randomly. It will have different questions than others sitting the exam.

There will be a range of question types for the computer-based questions including:

- multiple choice/single choice (one correct answer from a range of possible answers)
- inline (select a word/phase to complete a statement)
- numerical
- multi-select (select the number of correct answer options).

This list covers what type of questions may be in your exam.

Workplace responsibilities and workplace safety

- Limitations on persons who do, or assist in doing drainlaying work
- Site safety, electrical safety, personal and public safety.
- Safety practices relating to confined spaces, heights, and excavations
- Safety practices relating to the handling of materials, electricity, and tools
- Considerations related to site integrity preservation and prevention

Tolls, equipment, and materials used in drainlaying work

- Materials used in drainlaying work, their properties, and characteristics, including limitations in their usage
- Handling methods
- Corrosion protection
- Jointing methods
- Bedding materials and backfill
- Tools and equipment used in drainlaying work

Drainage and sewer systems

- Installation, testing, commissioning, fault-finding and maintenance of foul water and surface water systems
- Trade waste systems
- On-site effluent disposal systems
- On-site wastewater treatment systems
- Interpreting plans and specifications
- Drawing as-built drawings
- Calculations and trade science principles related to drainage systems
- Pipework, pumps, venting.

Legislation relevant to the exam

The following legislation and compliance documents contain some requirements relevant to the exam:

- The Building Act 2004

- Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006
- Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Regulations 2010
- Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board (Drainlaying Registration and Licensing) Notice 2016
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

The legislation can be downloaded free here.

The Building Code and Compliance Documents:

- New Zealand Building Code Handbook
- B2: Durability
- E1: Surface Water
- E2: External Moisture
- G10: Piped Services
- G13: Foul Water
- G14: Industrial liquid waste

The Building Code Compliance documents can be downloaded free here.

Standards relevant to the exam

The following standards contain some requirements relevant to the exam:

- AS/NZS 3500 Part 0:2021 Glossary of terms
- AS/NZS 3500 Part 2:2021 Sanitary plumbing and drainage
- AS/NZS 3500 Part 3:2021 Stormwater
- AS/NZS 1546 Part 1:2008 On-site domestic wastewater treatment units - Septic tanks
- AS/NZS 1546 Part 3:2008 On-site domestic wastewater treatment units - Aerated wastewater treatment systems
- AS/NZS 1547:2012 On-site domestic wastewater management

Note: Some of these standards are available through the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board trade login. These standards are only available if you hold a current authorisation or practising licence. If you do not have access to certain standards, they can be purchased from Standards NZ.

Weighting of the exam

1.	Workplace responsibilities and workplace safety	15
2.	Tools, equipment, and materials used in drainlaying work	10
3.	Drainage and sewer systems	75
	Total marks	**100**
This weighting schedule is a recommendation and guide for tutors, examiners, moderators, and candidates. It gives an approximate allocation of the emphasis given to topics in the examination.		