Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board

9198 Certifying Drainlayer examination guide

This guide contains information about the 9198 certifying drainlayer examination. 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. 75% of the questions will be electronically answered, and 25% will need to be answered on a paper exam sheet.
- You are expected to answer examination questions in accordance with the Acts, Regulations and Codes in force at 1 January of the calendar year of the examination.
- The pass mark is 60%.

Exam purpose

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

Sitting the exam

The Boards certifying 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:

1. G13 Foul Water
2. AS/NZS 3500 Part 2
3. E1 Surface water
4. G14 Industrial liquid waste

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 4**.

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).

The paper-based questions will require the candidate to draw, design or fill in answers on a diagram, much like the current exam.

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

Responsibilities and considerations relating to managing health and safety and relating to the oversight and/or supervision of persons who do, or assist in doing, restricted work.

- Considerations and responsibilities under Health and safety in employment Act and Regulations.
- Health and safety systems.
- Preparation of safety plan.
- Incident and accident reporting.
- Oversight and supervision of persons carrying out restricted work.
- Considerations and responsibilities related to excavations.
- Notifiable work, scope and related requirements.

Foul water systems

- Design and verification of foul water drainage systems.
- Preparing plans
- Specification of materials for the design and installation of drainage systems
- Water quality

Stormwater systems

- Design and verification of stormwater drainage systems
- Preparing plans
- Specification of materials for the design and installation of drainage systems
- Water quality

Trade waste and onsite effluent disposal systems

- Design and installation of trade waste systems
- Design and installation of on-site effluent disposal systems
- Design and installation of on-site wastewater treatment systems
- Operation and maintenance of trade waste and on-site disposal systems

Legislation relevant to the exam.

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

- Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006
- Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Regulations 2010
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995
- Building Act 2004
- Health Act 1956 Part 2A (Drinking Water) amended 2007
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Building Code and Handbook

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.

Codes of practice relevant to the exam

- Code of Practice for Safety in Excavation and Shafts for Foundations. This is available here
- Guide for Safety with Underground Services. This is available here.

Standards relevant to the exam

The following standards and Building Code clauses 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.

The Building Code clauses are free to download here.

Weighting of the exam

Topics	Marks
Health and safety	10
Supervision	6
Foul water systems	30
Storm water systems	20
Trade waste and onsite sewage treatment systems	25
Trade science and calculations	9
Total	**100**