

New Zealand Experience Pathway Information Guide

You may be eligible for the New Zealand Experience pathway if you have seven years of full-time experience in New Zealand as a plumber, gasfitter, or drainlayer but do not have a formal qualification.

There are five steps you need to follow:



Get your New Zealand experience assessed

You need to email the completed [New Zealand Experience Pathway Application](#) and the evidence listed on the form to RFR@pgdb.co.nz.

As part of this application, you need to show that you have the required experience and trade knowledge for registration in your trade.

Submit your application

Once you have submitted your application and required evidence:

- we will send you a link to pay for the application
- once we have received payment, our assessor will review your application and evidence

We can only review your application if payment is received, the application form has been filled out correctly, and all evidence is submitted.

Complete the interview

As part of reviewing your application, our assessor will need to complete an interview to discuss:

- your understanding of the competencies in your trade
- supervision, registration, licensing, and regulatory requirements
- any questions that the assessor may have about your experience or application.

To prepare for the interview, we recommend reviewing the below content:

- [Supervision guidance](#)
- [Responsibilities of a supervisor](#)
- [Responsibilities of a supervisee](#)
- [Understanding registration and licence classes](#)
- [New Zealand building regulatory systems](#) (free online modules)
- [Electricity Act 1992](#), section 74 (gasfitting only)
- [Gasfitting installation](#) (gasfitting only)
- [Gasfitting certification](#) (gasfitting only)
- [Gas \(Safety and Measurement\) Regulations 2010](#) (gasfitting only)

Our assessor will contact you to organise a time for the interview. The interview can be completed through phone call or Microsoft Teams.

Application outcomes

Once your application has been reviewed, we will email you a Recommendation for Registration outcome letter.

Application is approved

If your application is approved, you will be eligible to sit the registration exam. Once you have passed the exam, you will be eligible to apply for registration.

Application is declined

Your application may be declined if you have not:

- provided sufficient evidence showing that you have seven years of full-time work experience in your trade
- shown that you have the required knowledge for registration in your trade.

If your application is declined, your options for registering in New Zealand are:

- gain further full-time work experience and knowledge in your trade, or
- enrol with a training provider, to complete the New Zealand certificate in plumbing, gasfitting, or drainlaying (level 4).

Sit and pass the relevant registration exam

If your New Zealand Experience pathway application is successful, your next step is to sit the relevant registration exam for plumbing, gasfitting, and/or drainlaying.

This is a computer-based exam which tests that you have the required theory knowledge for registration in New Zealand. You can find out more about the exam on our [website](#).

Apply for registration

Once you have passed the registration exam, you will need to apply for registration and a practising licence.

You can find more about applying for registration on our [website](#).

Are you wanting to become a certifier?

Once you are registered as a plumber, gasfitter, or drainlayer, you may work towards certifying registration in your trade.

You will need to complete the following steps:

- hold an active licence as a registered practitioner for 24 months
- sit and pass the relevant certifying exam (this can be done at any point after passing the registration exam).

You can find more about applying for certifying registration on our [website](#).

Fees

The New Zealand Experience Application fee is based on a full-cost recovery basis. This means that the fee charged is the cost for the Board to deliver the service.

If your application takes longer to review or is incomplete upon submitting, an additional fee may be charged before you receive an outcome.

It is important that you correctly fill out the application form and submit all the required evidence to avoid any additional fees.

The total fee to get registered (per trade) is outlined below:

Type of fee:	Fee amount NZ\$
New Zealand Experience pathway application	\$1,080.00
Registration exam fee	\$330.00
Registration, licence, and Disciplinary and Prosecution levy fees	\$725.00 (first trade) \$450.00 (additional trades)

More information about the fees can be found on our [website](#).