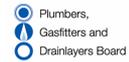


# Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board



## New pilot programme to make a world of difference

Peter Jackson — September 12th, 2018

Meeting with plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers around the country over the years and more recently during CPD sessions, we have encountered many talented and competent tradespeople.

**However, one thing that has become apparent to us during this time is the fact that there are some people who have completed their training but have grappled with passing the Board's exams to become registered.**

This is a situation that has mainly been due to literacy and numeracy issues - a struggle with words and numbers.

Some, after many attempts, have passed their registration exams, and others, unfortunately, have decided to adjust their career pathways as a consequence of this difficulty.

With the current construction environment in New Zealand requiring significant increased demand for plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers our industry needs to find solutions to address this issue.

Since the beginning of the year, we have been working together with Literacy Aotearoa in an initiative that we hope will help address this problem.

The Board is now happy to announce the launch of a new pilot programme particularly designed for people working in our industry.

A new pilot programme to make a world of (literacy) difference to our tradespeople.

**Find out more on the next page** and if this sounds like you, or someone you know, complete the quick survey to help us get this underway.

# Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board



## New industry literacy programme

comms@pgdb.co.nz — September 12th, 2018

Since the beginning of this year, the Board has been working together with Literacy Aotearoa in an initiative to help those who grapple with passing exams due to a struggle with words and numbers.

**The Board are happy to announce the launch of a new pilot programme specially designed for people working in the plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying industry.**

This is what the pilot will look like:

- **The first stage** will be to identify a small group of people that could benefit from this programme and where they are in the country.
- **The second stage** will have Literacy Aotearoa staff contacting those people selected for the first round of the pilot to schedule a chat. This will be for the purpose of assessing potential literacy and numeracy differences or difficulties.

The outcome of this assessment will be a recommendation for the appropriate level of assistance during the Board's exams, as well as suggestions on what can be done during exam preparation to improve the chances of a better result.

The available levels of assistance Literacy Aotearoa can recommend for applicants on the exam days are:

- no extra assistance
- extra time
- extra time and reader/writer
- professional conversation.

**What does professional conversation mean?**

A professional conversation is a structured conversation between a candidate and a technical assessor.

The candidate has the opportunity to provide evidence of competency, skills and knowledge to show they meet the criteria required to become registered in the relevant trade.

**What are the costs?**

- The cost of the assessment carried out by Literacy Aotearoa will be \$200+GST.
- If Literacy Aotearoa recommends options of assistance for exam preparation, these will be at the cost of the candidate if TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) or other government funding can't be applied for.
- If the recommendation for exam assistance includes extra time only, or extra time and the assistance of a reader/writer, there is no extra cost beyond the normal examination fee.
- If the recommendation is for a professional conversation, the costs of organising this will be agreed to with the candidate on a cost recovery basis. Video conferencing technology will be used where possible in order to reduce the need for travel/accommodation costs.

**If this sounds like you, or someone you know, complete the quick survey at the link below:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JHZ3X7W>**