
QBCC LICENCE CHANGES (MAY 2021) RELATING TO HYDRANT TESTING

CREATED BY HYDRAULIC TESTING AND CERTIFICATION

12th May 2021

On the 1st of May 2021 QBCC licences transitioned to a new framework.¹ This article explains the implications relating to hydrant testing.

Prior to the 1st of May 2021 a Certificate II in Fire Protection Inspection and Testing was required to meet the QBCC technical competence to test hydrant systems. From the 1st of May 2021 the licence name changed from “Fire hydrants and hose reels – Inspect and test”, to “Fire protection - water-based fire system stream”. That change came with a change in the technical requirements. A Certificate III in Fire Protection (Plumber)² is now required to conduct annual hydrant flow tests.

Details of the licence transition for the Fire Hydrants and Hose Reels licence classes are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Licensees will retain their pre 1st of May 2021 licence classes until the 31st of October 2021 when the new licence classes will be enforced.

HTC’s licence changes

HTC have employed a plumber to ensure continued compliance with the QBCC licencing requirements. In addition to testing, we can install and certify hydrants under QBCC licence 15018810. We can also conduct testing under the Professional Engineers Act 2002³ with RPEQ licence 16239.

For more information regarding HTC’s services please get in contact with Dan on 0429 000 302, via email at Dan@HydrantTesting.com.au or visit our service list on our website

<https://www.hydranttesting.com.au/>.

¹ Subordinate Legislation 2020 No. 223 is in effect on the 1st of May 2021. <https://www.epw.qld.gov.au/news-publications/legislation/fire-protection-licensing-changes>

² DRAFT Proposed technical qualifications for licensing (fire protection licensing). Queensland Government. 28/01/21. Part 26

Table 1 - Fire Hydrants and Hose Reels - Inspect and Test

	Licence name	Technical Qualification	Scope of Work	Change explained
Before 1 May 2021	Fire hydrants and hose reels - Inspect and test (Schedule 2, Part 28)	Certificate II In Fire Protection Inspection and Testing. ³	Inspect and test fire hydrants and hose reels. ⁴	Can no longer conduct annual inspection and testing of pumped or unpumped hydrant systems. Can no longer inspect and test pumped FHR nor pumped hydrant systems.
From 1 May 2021	Fire protection - Portable stream - Install and maintain (Schedule 2, Part 29)	Certificate II in Fire Protection Inspection and Testing. ⁵	Inspect and test unpumped FHR's; and inspect and test unpumped fire hydrant systems, restricted to carrying out the tasks mentioned in the 6-monthly fire hydrant service schedules under AS 1851. ⁶	

Table 2 - Fire Hydrants and Hose Reels - Install and Maintain

	Licence name	Technical Qualification	Scope of Work	Change explained
Before 1 May 2021	Fire hydrants and hose reels – Install and maintain (Schedule 2, Part 28)	Plumber licence. ⁷	Install and maintain fire hydrants and hose reels. ⁸	A Certification III in fire protection is similar to a plumber licence. Licensee is now able to install and maintain sprinkler systems.
From 1 May 2021	Fire protection - water-based fire system stream (Schedule 2, Part 26)	Certificate III in Fire Protection. ⁹	(a) install and maintain fire sprinkler systems; and (b) install and maintain fire hydrant systems, with or without pumps; and (c) install and maintain fire hose reels, with or without pumps. ¹⁰	

³ Technical qualifications for licensing. Queensland Government. 28/01/21. Part 28

⁴ QBCC Regulation 2018 (1 October 2020), Schedule 2, Part 28, 2, (3)

⁵ DRAFT Proposed technical qualifications for licensing (fire protection licensing). Queensland Government. 28/01/21. Part 29

⁶ QBCC and other Legislation (Fire Protection Licensing) Amendment Regulation 2020, Schedule 2, Part 29, 2, (c) and (d)

⁷ Technical qualifications for licensing. Queensland Government. 28/01/21. Part 28

⁸ QBCC Regulation 2018 (1 October 2020), Schedule 2, Part 28, 2, (2)

⁹ DRAFT Proposed technical qualifications for licensing (fire protection licensing). Queensland Government. 28/01/21. Part 26

¹⁰ QBCC and other Legislation (Fire Protection Licensing) Amendment Regulation 2020, Schedule 2, Part 26, 2, (4)