Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board

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Overseas Qualification Pathway Information Guide

You may be eligible for registration with the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board (Board) if you:

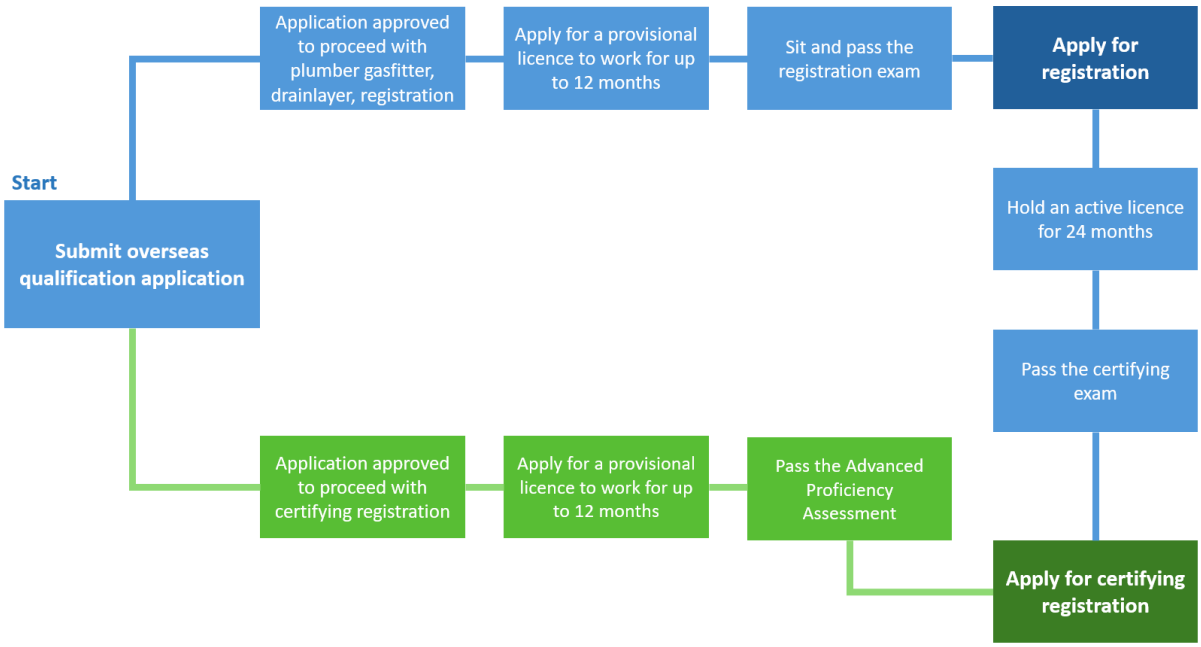
- hold formal overseas plumbing, gasfitting, and/or drainlaying qualification that is equivalent to the New Zealand Certificate (level 4).
- have worked full time for a minimum of four years in sanitary plumbing or gasfitting, or a minimum of two years in drainlaying.

This information guide will outline the steps you need to take to get registered with the Board.

Pathways to registration

There are two different pathways you can take to gain registration in New Zealand.

The below flowchart shows the pathway to plumber, gasfitter, drainlayer registration (blue) or certifying registration (green).



What steps do you need to take?

Step one: Get your overseas qualifications assessed

Your overseas formal qualifications, full-time work experience, and knowledge need to be equivalent to the New Zealand Certificate in plumbing, gasfitting, and/or drainlaying (level 4).

The first step is to complete the Overseas Qualification Application and interview. The purpose of this application is to:

- assess that your overseas qualification, full-time work experience, and trade knowledge
- choose your level of registration (plumber, gasfitter, drainlayer registration **or** certifying registration).
- meet the Board's fit and proper person requirements for registration in New Zealand.

The Overseas Qualification Application Information Guide explains the steps to get your overseas qualification assessed.

Step two: Apply for a provisional licence

Once your overseas qualification application has been approved, you can apply to work under a provisional licence for up to 12 months. The provisional licence allows you to legally work in New Zealand while you prepare to sit the registration examination or APA.

Before applying, you must have a New Zealand based employment and supervisor, who holds a current certifying licence in the trades that you will be working in.

Once your provisional licence has been issued, we will email a confirmation letter to both you and your supervisor. The provisional licence letter will outline the terms and conditions of the licence.

Step three: Pass the registration exam or Advanced Proficiency Assessment

If your overseas qualification application is approved for plumber, gasfitter, or drainlayer registration, you will need to pass the relevant registration exam. You can find out more about the exam on our website.

If your overseas qualification application is approved for certifying registration, you will need to pass the Advanced Proficiency Assessment (APA). The APA is completed over a three-day period and tests you on the required practical and theory knowledge for certifying registration.

Step four: Apply for registration with the Board

Once you have passed the registration exam or APA, you will be eligible for registration in New Zealand. You will need to do this before your provisional licence expires so you can continue holding a licence to work.

You can find more about applying for registration on our website.

How much will it cost?

You can find more information about fees on our website.

The cost to get **registered** (per trade) is outlined below:

Fee type	**Fee amount, including GST (NZ$)**
Overseas qualification pathway application	$1,080.00
Provisional licence application	$100.00
Registration examination	$330.00
Registration application (including practising licence)	$725.00 (first trade) $450.00 (for any additional trades)

The cost to get **registered as a certifier** (per trade) is outlined below:

Fee type	**Fee amount, including GST (NZ$)**
Overseas qualification pathway application	$1,080.00
Provisional licence application	$100.00
APA assessment (breakdown of fees below) • application fee $690.00 • assessment fee $2,300.00 • materials fee $1,500.00	$4,490.00
Certifying registration application (including practising licence)	$725.00 (first trade) $450.00 (for any additional trades)