FACT SHEET

Eligibility for a Western Australian trade certificate

A trade certificate may be issued by the Western Australian Department of Training and Workforce Development (the Department) to an individual who has achieved an apprenticeship qualification if the individual has:

- completed the qualification via a training contract registered in Western Australia;
- met the Department’s trade skills recognition (TSR) requirements; or
- completed a qualification that is recognised within the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) in an Australian state or territory other than WA. The qualification must be equivalent to a qualification on the Classification of prescribed vocational education and training qualifications in WA with the title of apprentice, and must have been achieved through an employment-based training arrangement.

The following diagram illustrates the three pathways of obtaining a trade certificate in WA.

I have achieved my qualification via a WA apprenticeship training contract

- The Department will issue you a trade certificate on completion of the training contract.
- No application is required.

I have extensive industry experience but do not have a formal qualification from a registered training organisation (RTO)

- You may wish to undergo a recognition of prior learning (RPL) process with an RTO that is approved by the Department as a TSR provider.
- If you are found eligible to be issued an AQF qualification classified in WA as an apprenticeship, the RTO can apply to the Department for a trade certificate to be issued to you under the TSR guidelines.
- For further information, refer to the Applying for a Western Australian trade certificate via trade skills recognition fact sheet under Other publications on the Apprenticeship Office website.

I have achieved my AQF qualification in an Australian state or territory other than WA

- If your AQF qualification is in a trade that is recognised in WA as an apprenticeship qualification, you may apply to the Department for a trade certificate.
- For further information, refer to the Applying for a Western Australian trade certificate by interstate tradespeople fact sheet under Other publications on the Apprenticeship Office website.
When a trade certificate will not be issued

The Department is not able to issue a trade certificate to an individual who:

- is an apprentice yet to complete their training contract;
- has completed the qualification through institutional training only;
- is an international student; or
- has achieved an apprenticeship qualification through RPL using an RTO that is not approved by the Department as a TSR provider.

Licensing requirements

Some trade areas have licensing requirements which individuals are required to meet in order to work in particular occupations. Licensing requirements are in addition to the AQF qualification and trade certificate. Individuals should seek information from the relevant licensing body on the requirements they need to meet for those occupations.