



Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare

Licensing and external plasterers

If you work as an external plasterer, then you need to know about licensing in your sector



What's licensing about?

The Licensed Building Practitioner Scheme will help ensure that people in the building industry are competent and accountable for the work they do. This is so homes and buildings are designed and built right the first time.

Licensing will promote, recognise and support professional skills and behaviour in the building industry. Licensing was introduced for some designers, builders, site supervisors and carpenters in November 2007.

Licensing will be introduced for roofers, bricklayers and blocklayers, and external plasterers in November 2008.

What's the benefit for me?

Being licensed recognises you as a competent professional, which employers, clients and customers will value. As a licensed building practitioner, your name will be recorded on an online register. This will enable employers, customers and clients to find competent building industry professionals.

Do I need to be licensed?

This is a decision that you need to make, depending on your individual situation. You can choose not to be a licensed building practitioner. However, from November 2010, a licensed practitioner will be required for some kinds of restricted building work. If you are unlicensed this would mean having to be supervised by someone who is licensed.

What information do I have to give?

When you apply, the assessor wants to know if you have skills and knowledge in your chosen area of practice (eg, proprietary plaster coating systems). The assessor wants to know if you can:

- demonstrate knowledge of the regulatory environment (ie, the Building Act, Building Code, building consents)
- demonstrate knowledge of current building and external plastering trade practice (ie, explain relevant technical terms, construction methods, and trade practice)
- carry out planning for external plastering work (ie, read and interpret working drawings, order and coordinate materials)
- carry out external plastering work.

What will licensing cost?

The fee for being licensed in External Plastering will be \$525 (GST included). You can elect to be assessed in more than one area of practice (ie, solid plastering and proprietary plaster coating systems) by paying an additional \$55 (GST included).

Whether or not you elect to be assessed in more than one area of practice does not affect your licensing ID card – it will show that you are licensed in ‘External Plastering’. You have a professional responsibility to work within your area of expertise.

Once you are licensed you will pay an annual charge and Board levy of \$195 (GST included).

When does licensing start?

The scheme is being phased in over three years, to give industry time to adjust. Important dates are:

November 2007

licensing introduced for design, site and carpentry

November 2008

licensing introduced for three trade classes



March 2009

licensing introduced for steel structure and concrete structure classes.

What other licensing classes are there?

The table below lays out the range of classes and the work they cover.

IF YOU:	YOU CAN APPLY FOR:
Work on or supervise	
Carpentry on any building	Carpentry
Roofing of any sort	Roofing
External plastering	External plastering
Bricklaying and/or blocklaying	Bricklaying and blocklaying
Supervise	
Concrete construction on commercial building projects	Concrete structure
Steel construction on commercial building projects	Steel structure
Design	
Straightforward houses	Design 1
Moderately complex commercial or residential buildings	Design 2
Large or publicly important buildings	Design 3*
Build	
Straightforward houses	Site 1
Supervise or build	
Moderately complex commercial or residential projects, or aspects of large or complex construction projects	Site 2
Manage the construction of	
Large or complex construction projects	Site 3

* Registered architects and Chartered Professional Engineers are treated as if they are licensed in the Design 3 class by virtue of their own registration schemes.



What should I be doing now?

If you are considering being licensed, you should read the booklet *Is Licensing for Me?* This covers all the details about licensing and what you need to know.

To get a copy phone
0800 60 60 50.

More information is also available
at www.dbh.govt.nz

Or you can sign up for our **free**
regular electronic newsletter,
licensing update, via
info@dbh.govt.nz, or through
our website.

The newsletter contains all
the latest information on licensing
and is emailed out every couple
of months.



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