



Plumbers Licensing Act 1995

**Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards
Amendment Regulations 2015**

Made by the Governor in Executive Council.

1. Citation

These regulations are the *Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards Amendment Regulations 2015*.

2. Commencement

These regulations come into operation as follows —

- (a) regulations 1 and 2 — on the day on which these regulations are published in the *Gazette*;
- (b) the rest of the regulations — on 1 May 2015.

3. Regulations amended

These regulations amend the *Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards Regulations 2000*.

4. Regulation 3 amended

- (1) In regulation 3(1) delete the definition of *plumbing standards*.
- (2) In regulation 3(1) insert in alphabetical order:

alternative solution has the meaning given in the Plumbing Code Part A1;

Plumbing Code means the Plumbing Code of Australia which is volume 3, as amended from time to time, of

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the National Construction Code Series published by, or on behalf of, the Australian Building Codes Board;

plumbing standards has the meaning given in regulation 48;

5. Regulation 40 inserted

At the beginning of Part 5 Division 1 insert:

40. Application of Division

This Division does not apply in respect of major plumbing work that includes an alternative solution.

6. Part 5 Division 3A inserted

After Part 5 Division 2 insert:

**Division 3A — Plumbing work including
alternative solutions**

45A. Notice of intention to include alternative solution

(1) A licensed plumbing contractor must not carry out, or permit or arrange to be carried out, plumbing work that includes an alternative solution unless the contractor has given the Board a notice of intention to carry out work including an alternative solution at least 5 working days before the work commences.

Penalty: a fine of \$5 000.

(2) Subregulation (1) does not apply to a licensed plumbing contractor if the contractor is to carry out the work for a licensed plumbing contractor and that licensed plumbing contractor or another licensed

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plumbing contractor has, or ought to have, given a notice of intention under subregulation (1).

- (3) The notice of intention must —
- (a) be in the approved form; and
 - (b) be accompanied by the lodgment fee set out in Schedule 1; and
 - (c) be accompanied by the new installation fee (where relevant).

45B. Certificate of compliance for alternative solution

- (1) When plumbing work that includes an alternative solution is completed, the licensed plumbing contractor responsible for the work must, within 5 working days after the day on which the work is completed —
- (a) give the Board a certificate of compliance for the work; and
 - (b) give a copy of the certificate to the owner or occupier of the place where the work was carried out; and
 - (c) give a copy of the certificate to the local government in whose district the work was carried out if the work is drainage plumbing work and the drainage plumbing is not, and is not intended to be, connected to a sewer.

Penalty: a fine of \$5 000.

- (2) The certificate must certify that —
- (a) the plumbing that is the result of the work (the ***principal plumbing***), and any other plumbing that the certificate must cover because of subregulation (4), complies with the plumbing standards; and

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- (b) existing plumbing that any of the plumbing referred to in paragraph (a) relies upon for its safe and effective operation is safe and in proper working order.
- (3) The certificate must be in the approved form.
- (4) The certificate must cover the plumbing of a previous contractor if —
 - (a) the principal plumbing includes or relies upon plumbing that is the result of plumbing work for which another licensed plumbing contractor (the *previous contractor*) is responsible; and
 - (b) the plumbing work of the previous contractor was not completed by the previous contractor; and
 - (c) a certificate of compliance for the plumbing work of the previous contractor has not been given; and
 - (d) the plumbing of the previous contractor is essential to the safe and effective operation of the principal plumbing.
- (5) A licensed plumbing contractor who has given a certificate of compliance must keep a copy of the certificate at the contractor's principal place of business for at least 6 years after giving the certificate.
Penalty: a fine of \$3 000.

45C. Non-completion of plumbing work including alternative solution

- (1) A licensed plumbing contractor who has given a notice of intention to carry out work including an alternative solution must, by giving notice to the Board in the approved form, withdraw the notice of intention to the

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extent that the contractor is not going to carry out the work including the alternative solution.

Penalty: a fine of \$3 000.

- (2) A licensed plumbing contractor must comply with regulation 45B in relation to work including an alternative solution that has been completed by the contractor if —
- (a) the contractor has given a notice of intention to carry out the work; and
 - (b) the contractor has commenced the work; and
 - (c) the contractor is not going to complete all the work.

Penalty: a fine of \$3 000.

7. Part 6 replaced

Delete Part 6 and insert:

Part 6 — Plumbing standards

47. Term used: responsible person

In this Part —

responsible person, in relation to plumbing work, means each of the following —

- (a) a person who carries out the plumbing work;
- (b) a person under whose general direction and control or supervision the plumbing work is carried out;
- (c) the licensed plumbing contractor or permit holder who is responsible for the plumbing work.

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48. Plumbing standards

The standards that apply to plumbing and plumbing work (*plumbing standards*) are, subject to the modifications set out in regulation 49, the requirements set out in the following provisions of the Plumbing Code —

- (a) Section A;
- (b) Part B1 and Part B2 other than Part B2.6;
- (c) to the extent that the requirements relate to water supply plumbing and water supply plumbing work — Parts B3 and B4;
- (d) Parts C1 and C2;
- (e) Part G1.

49. Modifications to Plumbing Code

- (1) For the purposes of regulation 48, AS/NZS 3500.1 (Water services) as referenced in the Plumbing Code is modified to delete clause 3.5.2(a).
- (2) For the purposes of regulation 48, the modifications set out in the Table are made to AS/NZS 3500.2 (Sanitary plumbing and drainage) as referenced in the Plumbing Code.

Table

Provision	Modification
Clause 3.2	Delete “that building.” and insert: buildings on that property.

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Provision	Modification
Clause 3.9.2.2	<p>Delete the clause and insert:</p> <p>3.9.2.2 <i>Downstream (boundary trap) vent</i></p> <p>Where, on any drain, a boundary trap vent is required by Clause 3.9.1(a), it shall be installed so that —</p> <p>(a) the vent is connected not more than 10 m from the boundary trap riser and no other fixture is connected between the vent and the boundary trap riser;</p> <p>(b) if the vent is unsupported, it terminates between a minimum of 150 mm and a maximum of 250 mm above ground or adopted flood level using one of the following methods —</p> <p>(i) one 88° bend and a flat grate with invert level not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level;</p> <p>(ii) two 88° bends and a flat grate or vent cowl so that there is not less than 150 mm between the flat grate or vent cowl and the ground or adopted flood level;</p> <p>(iii) an air admittance valve not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level installed in accordance with Clause 6.9;</p> <p>and</p>

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Provision	Modification
	(c) the vent is sized in accordance with Clause 3.9.3.1 so that the fixture unit loading on the main drain determines the size of the vent with the minimum size being not less than DN 50.
Clause 3.18	Delete paragraphs (b) to (d) and insert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) The inspection shaft shall be a sweep or 45° junction installed in the graded drain with the branch of the junction extended vertically upwards to surface level. (c) The junction to the inspection shaft shall be against the grade of the drain so that any rodding of the line is in the direction away from the chamber. (d) Where more than one drain is connected to a vacuum chamber, the spill level of both overflow gullies of the drains shall be installed level with each other wherever possible. (e) A DN 100 vent pipe shall be provided on each drain connected to a vacuum chamber.

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Provision	Modification
(f)	A vacuum sewer system vent can be located on the main drain as close as possible to the inspection shaft riser but can also be connected further upstream as long as no other fixture is connected between the inspection shaft riser and the vent connection.
(g)	A vacuum sewer system vent can terminate between a minimum of 150 mm and a maximum of 250 mm above ground or adopted flood level using one of the following methods — <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) one 88° bend and a flat grate with invert level not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level; (ii) two 88° bends and a flat grate or vent cowl so that there is not less than 150 mm between the flat grate or vent cowl and the ground or adopted flood level; (iii) an air admittance valve not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level installed in accordance with Clause 6.9.
(h)	Where a vacuum sewer system vent is installed as a low level vent it shall terminate in accordance with Clause 3.9.2.3.

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Provision	Modification
	(i) Where a vacuum sewer system vent is not installed as a low level vent it shall terminate in accordance with Clause 6.8.4 and where an air admittance valve is used it shall be installed in accordance with Clause 6.9.
Clause 4.6.2	<p>Delete paragraph (b) and insert:</p> <p>(b) have each gully riser provided with a grating or cover of a loose, pop-out type to relieve surcharge and allow adequate ventilation to the gully riser; and</p> <p>In paragraph (c)(ii) delete “product.” and insert:</p> <p>product; and</p> <p>At the end of the clause insert:</p> <p>(d) have the height of the gully riser not more than 600 mm measured from the top of the water seal to the grate of the gully.</p>
Table 4.3	<p>Delete the 1st item.</p> <p>In the 2nd item delete “or shower”.</p> <p>Delete the 3rd item.</p>

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Provision	Modification
	In the last item delete “Top surface level of the fixture outlet” and insert: Overflow level of the fixture
Clause 4.7.1	Delete paragraphs (a) to (h) and insert: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) at the downstream end of any branch drain that exits a building, adjacent to the junction into the main drain; (b) at the upstream and downstream ends of all branch drains and main drains that are external to a building; (c) at every change of horizontal direction greater than 45°; (d) at intervals of not more than 30 m; (e) at the connection to the water services provider’s sewer if not provided by the water services provider; (f) at the downstream end of any drain that passes under a building, except where waste fixtures only are concerned; (g) where any new section of drain is connected to an existing drain; and (h) at the upper bend of a jump-up or rising shaft.

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Provision	Modification
Clause 6.4.3	Before “600 mm” insert: 300 mm for urinals and

- (3) For the purposes of regulation 48, AS/NZS 3500.4 (Heated water services) as referenced in the Plumbing Code is modified in Table 5.1 in the item relating to Expansion control valve (Australia) in the 3rd and 4th columns to delete “*” and insert:

Yes

- (4) For the purposes of regulation 48, the modifications set out in the Table are made to AS/NZS 3500.5 (Housing Installations) as referenced in the Plumbing Code.

Table

Provision	Modification
Clause 2.5.6.2	Delete paragraph (a).
Table 3.20.1	In the item relating to Expansion control valve (Australia) in the 3 rd and 4 th columns delete “*” and insert: Yes
Clause 4.10	Delete “that building.” and insert: buildings on that property.

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Provision	Modification
Clause 4.21.1	<p>Delete paragraphs (a) to (h) and insert:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) at the downstream end of any branch drain that exits a building, adjacent to the junction into the main drain;(b) at the upstream and downstream ends of all branch drains and main drains that are external to a building;(c) at every change of horizontal direction greater than 45°;(d) at intervals of not more than 30 m;(e) at the connection to the water services provider's sewer if not provided by the water services provider;(f) at the downstream end of any drain that passes under a building, except where waste fixtures only are concerned;(g) where any new section of drain is connected to an existing drain; and(h) at the upper bend of a jump-up or rising shaft.

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Provision	Modification
Clause 4.34.2.2	<p>Delete the clause and insert:</p> <p>4.34.2.2 <i>Downstream (boundary trap) vent</i></p> <p>Where, on any drain, a boundary trap vent is required by Clause 4.34.1(a), it shall be installed so that —</p> <p>(a) the vent is connected not more than 10 m from the boundary trap riser and no other fixture is connected between the vent and the boundary trap riser;</p> <p>(b) if the vent is unsupported, it terminates between a minimum of 150 mm and a maximum of 250 mm above ground or adopted flood level using one of the following methods —</p> <p>(i) one 88° bend and a flat grate with invert level not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level;</p> <p>(ii) two 88° bends and a flat grate or vent cowl so that there is not less than 150 mm between the flat grate or vent cowl and the ground or adopted flood level;</p> <p>(iii) an air admittance valve not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level installed in accordance with Clause 4.34.8;</p> <p>and</p>

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Provision	Modification
	(c) the vent is sized in accordance with Clause 4.34.3.1 so that the fixture unit loading on the main drain determines the size of the vent with the minimum size being not less than DN 50.
Clause 4.36.2	<p>Delete paragraph (b) and insert:</p> <p>(b) have each gully riser provided with a grating or cover of a loose, pop-out type to relieve surcharge and allow adequate ventilation to the gully riser; and</p> <p>In paragraph (c)(ii) delete “product.” and insert:</p> <p>product; and</p> <p>At the end of the clause insert:</p> <p>(d) have the height of the gully riser not more than 600 mm measured from the top of the water seal to the grate of the gully.</p>
Table 4.36.6.6	<p>Delete the 1st item.</p> <p>In the 2nd item delete “or shower”.</p> <p>Delete the 3rd item.</p>

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Provision	Modification
	<p>In the last item delete “Top surface level of the fixture outlet” and insert:</p> <p>Overflow level of the fixture</p>
Clause 4.37.1.7	<p>Delete paragraph (c) and insert:</p> <p>(c) connected as close as possible to the fixture outlet.</p> <p>Before “600 mm” insert:</p> <p>300 mm for urinals and</p>
Clause 4.38	<p>Delete paragraphs (b) to (d) and insert:</p> <p>(b) The inspection shaft shall be a sweep or 45° junction installed in the graded drain with the branch of the junction extended vertically upwards to surface level.</p> <p>(c) The junction to the inspection shaft shall be against the grade of the drain so that any rodding of the line is in the direction away from the chamber.</p> <p>(d) Where more than one drain is connected to a vacuum chamber, the spill level of both overflow gullies of the drains shall be installed level with each other wherever possible.</p>

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Provision	Modification
(e)	A DN 100 vent pipe shall be provided on each drain connected to a vacuum chamber.
(f)	A vacuum sewer system vent can be located on the main drain as close as possible to the inspection shaft riser but can also be connected further upstream as long as no other fixture is connected between the inspection shaft riser and the vent connection.
(g)	A vacuum sewer system vent can terminate between a minimum of 150 mm and a maximum of 250 mm above ground or adopted flood level using one of the following methods — <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-left: 2em;">(i) one 88° bend and a flat grate with invert level not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level; <li style="margin-left: 2em;">(ii) two 88° bends and a flat grate or vent cowl so that there is not less than 150 mm between the flat grate or vent cowl and the ground or adopted flood level; <li style="margin-left: 2em;">(iii) an air admittance valve not less than 150 mm above ground or adopted flood level installed in accordance with Clause 4.34.8.

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Provision	Modification
	(h) Where a vacuum sewer system vent is installed as a low level vent it shall terminate in accordance with Clause 4.34.2.3.
	(i) Where a vacuum sewer system vent is not installed as a low level vent it shall terminate in accordance with Clause 4.34.7, and where an air admittance valve is used it shall be installed in accordance with Clause 4.34.8.

50. Compliance with plumbing standards and standard of work

A person must ensure that plumbing work for which the person is a responsible person —

- (a) complies with the plumbing standards that apply to the plumbing work; and
- (b) is carried out in a tradesman like manner.

Penalty: a fine of \$5 000.

51. Connecting unsafe plumbing

- (1) A person who is a responsible person for plumbing work must ensure that plumbing is not connected to a water supply system, a sewerage system or an apparatus for the treatment of sewerage, unless the plumbing complies with the plumbing standards that apply to the plumbing.

Penalty: a fine of \$5 000.

- (2) A person does not commit an offence under subregulation (1) if the person proves that he or she did

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not know that the plumbing did not comply with the plumbing standards.

- (3) A prosecution of an offence under subregulation (1) cannot be commenced without the approval of the Board.
- (4) The Board cannot give approval under subregulation (3) unless the Board is satisfied that connecting the plumbing was unsafe or gave rise to a dangerous situation.

52. Specifications not to be exceeded

- (1) A person who installs a pipe, fixture or fitting as part of plumbing work for which the person is a responsible person must ensure that —
 - (a) the installation specifications specified by the manufacturer of the pipe, fixture or fitting are complied with; and
 - (b) the operating conditions specified by the manufacturer of the pipe, fixture or fitting will not be exceeded.

Penalty: a fine of \$5 000.

- (2) Subregulation (1) does not apply if the manufacturer's specifications for installation or operating conditions are inconsistent with the plumbing standards that apply to the plumbing.

53. Liquid waste from airconditioners

- (1) In this regulation —
airconditioning waste means liquids that drain out of an airconditioning unit.
- (2) A person who is a responsible person for drainage plumbing work that involves or would result in the

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discharge of airconditioning waste into the sewer must ensure that the work is carried out in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS 3500.2:2003 (Sanitary plumbing and drainage) clause 11.20.

54. Non-application, modification of, plumbing standards

- (1) In this regulation —
declaration means a declaration under subregulation (2);
specified means specified in a declaration.
- (2) The Board may, in writing and on the application of another person —
 - (a) declare that a specified plumbing standard does not apply to specified plumbing work or specified plumbing; or
 - (b) modify in a specified way a plumbing standard that applies to specified plumbing work or specified plumbing.
- (3) A declaration has effect in accordance with its terms.
- (4) The Board must not make a declaration unless satisfied that the declaration would not result in an increased risk to people, property or the environment and that making the declaration —
 - (a) is in the public interest; or
 - (b) is consistent with the purpose of any other written law or a Commonwealth law.
- (5) A declaration may be made subject to specified conditions.

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- (6) If a declaration is made subject to a specified condition, the declaration has no effect at any time when the condition is being contravened.
- (7) The Board may, by notice in writing, revoke or amend a declaration at any time and must serve the applicant for the original declaration with a copy of the notice.
- (8) An application for a declaration must be made in an approved form and accompanied by the application fee set out in Schedule 1.

8. Regulation 71 replaced

Delete regulation 71 and insert:

71. Rectification notices

- (1) A plumbing compliance officer may give a rectification notice in respect of plumbing work if the officer is satisfied that —
 - (a) the plumbing work was not carried out in accordance with the plumbing standards that applied to the work at the time it was carried out; or
 - (b) the plumbing work —
 - (i) did not comply with the deemed-to-satisfy provisions in the Plumbing Code as modified in accordance with regulation 49 at the time the work was carried out; and
 - (ii) a notice of intention to include an alternative solution was not given under regulation 45A for the work;

or

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- (c) the plumbing work included the installation of a pipe, fixture or fitting in respect of which regulation 52(1) applied and —
 - (i) the installation specifications specified by the manufacturer of the pipe, fixture or fitting were not complied with; or
 - (ii) the operating conditions specified by the manufacturer of the pipe, fixture or fitting were exceeded;or
 - (d) the plumbing work was not carried out in a tradesman like manner.
- (2) A rectification notice may not be given more than 6 years after the later of the following events —
- (a) the certificate of compliance for the plumbing work is given in accordance with regulation 42(1) or 45B(1);
 - (b) a previous rectification notice in respect of the plumbing work is given.
- (3) The rectification notice is to be in the approved form and must specify —
- (a) the plumbing that is to be rectified; and
 - (b) the rectification that is required to be carried out; and
 - (c) whether the rectification must be carried out by a licensed plumbing contractor or permit holder; and
 - (d) the time within which the rectification must be carried out.

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- (4) The plumbing compliance officer may give the rectification notice to the licensed plumbing contractor or permit holder who —
 - (a) is responsible for the particular plumbing work;
or
 - (b) has given, or is required to give, a certificate of compliance that covers the work.
- (5) If the plumbing work was carried out by a person in contravention of regulation 9, the plumbing compliance officer may give the rectification notice to that person.
- (6) If a rectification notice is given to a licensed plumbing contractor or permit holder the plumbing compliance officer must give a copy of it to the owner of the place where the plumbing work was carried out.
- (7) The plumbing compliance officer who gave a rectification notice, or the Board, may amend or revoke the notice by giving the person to whom it was given a notice in the approved form.

9. Regulation 75 amended

In regulation 75(3) at the end of the Table insert:

45B(5), 45C(1) or (2)	\$600
45A(1), 45B(1)	\$1 000

10. Schedule 1 amended

- (1) Delete the reference after the heading to Schedule 1 and insert:

[r. 3, 22, 45, 45A, 54, 73 and 102]

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(2) In Schedule 1 in the Table after item 15 insert:

16A.	Notice of intention to carry out work that includes alternative solution (regulation 45A(1)) — 1 notice	22.40
16B.	Lodgment fee for notice of intention to carry out work that includes alternative solution (regulation 45A(3))	777.60
16C.	Application for declaration for non-application or modification of plumbing standards (regulation 54)	530.00

N. HAGLEY, Clerk of the Executive Council.