

41238 Prepare and collect water samples for drinking and non-potable waters

Kaupae Level	3
Whiwhinga Credit	3
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is for people intending to work in water services who are required to collect water samples. People with this skill standard can prepare for and collect water samples in accordance with operational requirements, while maintaining sample integrity and health and safety requirements. This skill standard aligns with the New Zealand Certificate in Water Services (Level 3) with strands in Drinking Water, and Wastewater [Ref: 5674] and may also contribute to other water services industry credentials.

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Prepare and collect water samples for drinking and non-potable waters.	a. Describe how sampling supports testing, compliance, and operational decision-making.
	b. Confirm sampling instructions, including sample type, location, timing and method.
	c. Prepare sampling equipment and personal protective equipment according to operational and manufacturer requirements.
	d. Collect samples using specified methods, maintaining hygiene and contamination controls.
	e. Label, store, and dispatch samples in accordance with instructions.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

Assessment specifications:

Assessment must include preparation for sampling, sample collection, and post-collection handling carried out in a workplace or realistic simulated environment.

Ākonga are not required to test samples, interpret results, assess compliance, calibrate equipment, or initiate corrective actions, but must demonstrate awareness of why these activities are important within the sampling process.

Definitions

Non-potable water refers to water that is not suitable for drinking and includes wastewater, trade waste, and source waters.

Operational requirements refer to the documented and embedded ways of working that govern how activities are planned, performed, monitored, and controlled in the workplace to ensure safe, consistent, and compliant operations.

Water services refer to industries responsible for working on or around water supplies, networks, plants, and systems.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved.

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

- Types of water samples (e.g. drinking water, wastewater, environmental water).
- Sampling programmes and work instructions.
- Selection and use of sampling equipment and containers.
- Sampling locations, timing, and frequency.
- Sampling methods, including grab and composite sampling.
- Field hygiene and contamination prevention.
- Health, safety, PPE, and biosecurity considerations.
- Sample labelling, preservation, storage, and transport.
- Chain of custody requirements.
- Post-sampling activities, including laboratory analysis, result interpretation, equipment calibration, follow-up actions, and the importance of these to data integrity and compliance (awareness only).

Rauemi | Resources

Legislation, regulations and/or industry standards relevant to this skill standard include, but are not limited to:

- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 - [Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 | WorkSafe](#).
- Water Services Act 2021 - [Water Services Act 2021, Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#).
- Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules - [Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules](#).
- Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand - [Water Services \(Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand\) Regulations 2022 \(SL 2022/168\) – New Zealand Legislation](#).
- Wastewater Standards - [Wastewater standards | The Water Services Authority - Taumata Arowai](#).
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 - [Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 No 30 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#).
- National Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards - [Discussion-document-National-wastewater-environmental-performance-standards-FINAL.pdf](#).

- Resource Management Act 1991 - [Acts and Bills | Ministry for the Environment](#).

Where the resources have been updated, please refer to the latest version.

Pārongo Whakaū Kouna | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Energy and Infrastructure Industry Skills Board
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Engineering and Technology > Water Industry > Water - Generic
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0120

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	28 May 2026	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	This skill standard replaced unit standards 17890 and 29998.		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2032		

Please contact Energy and Infrastructure Industry Skills Board at qualifications@energyinfra-skills.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.