

Field Service Sector

Registration of skill standards and review of unit standards for *Industrial Rope Access*

Subfield	Domain	ID
Lifting Equipment	Industrial Rope Access	19358, 19360-69, 28898, 31854, 32195-32199

Construction and Specialist Trades Industry Skills Board has completed the review of the unit standards listed above.

Date new versions published

May 2026

Planned review date

December 2031

Summary

As part of the scheduled review cycle, 17 industrial rope access unit standards were reviewed. The review was announced on the Waihanga Ara Rau's website and industry stakeholders were notified via the Scaffolding, Access and Rigging New Zealand Association (SARNZ) in mid-2025.

A series of online meetings were conducted between July and November 2025 with a technical advisory group comprising representatives from the industrial rope access sector, SARNZ, and key education providers. Public consultation was also undertaken during this time.

During the review period, Waihanga Ara Rau published findings and recommendations from the Short Course Training Project. This project identified gaps between the intended outcomes of certain unit standards and their application in practice. These findings were considered in the review, particularly in determining appropriate duration and credit values to ensure the standards accurately reflect the outcomes they are designed to achieve.

As a result of the review, 17 existing unit standards will be expired without replacement and eight new skill standards have been developed to support future credential development.

The responsibility for these unit and skill standards has been transferred from Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure WDC to Construction Specialist Trades Industry Skills Board to reflect the intent of VET reforms. Construction Specialist Trades ISB has finalised these standards for registration.

Main changes

- 17 unit standards were set to expire without replacement.
- Eight new skill standards were developed to support future credentials development.

Category D unit standards will expire at the end of December 2027.

Detailed list of unit standards – classification, title, level, and credits

All changes are in **bold**.

Key to review category	
A	Dates changed, but no other changes are made - the new version of the standard carries the same ID and a new version number
B	Changes made, but the overall outcome remains the same - the new version of the standard carries the same ID and a new version number
C	Major changes that necessitate the registration of a replacement standard with a new ID
D	Standard will expire and not be replaced

Service Sector > Lifting Equipment > Industrial Rope Access

ID	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
19358	Demonstrate knowledge of legislative requirements for the industrial rope access industry	3	3	D
19360	Plan and prepare for basic industrial rope access work	3	3	D
19361	Set up and dismantle basic industrial rope access systems	3	14	D
19362	Prepare and use industrial rope access systems	3	14	D
19363	Carry out simple patient recovery by rope techniques	3	15	D
19364	Identify and apply industrial rope access legislation and standards	4	8	D
19366	Plan and prepare for advanced industrial rope access work	4	15	D
19467	Set up, alter, and dismantle industrial rope access systems	4	15	D
19368	Operate advanced industrial rope access systems	4	15	D
19369	Carry out advanced patient recovery techniques using industrial rope access systems	4	20	D
28898	Prepare, install, inspect, use and dismantle basic industrial rope access systems	3	20	D
31854	Set up and operate rope access haulage systems	4	5	D
32195	Prepare and use documentation for advanced industrial rope access work	5	15	D
32196	Design and obtain engineer certification for rope access work	5	10	D
32197	Manage the selection and certification of anchors for rope access work	5	10	D
32198	Design cableway systems for vertical, semi-vertical, and horizontal loads	5	10	D
32199	Design, construct and operate heavy hauling systems for simple, compound, and complex lifts	5	10	D
41185	Operate as a basic level industrial rope access technician	3	5	New
41191	Operate as an intermediate level industrial rope access technician	4	5	New
41192	Install anchor systems for industrial rope access	5	5	New
41193	Calculate and assess industrial rope haulage using rigging theory	5	5	New
41194	Manage industrial rope access safety, risk, and compliance	5	5	New
41195	Certify compliance of height safety equipment	4	5	New
41196	Perform high-angle casualty stabilisation rope access rescue	4	5	New
41197	Operate as an advanced level industrial rope access technician	5	8	New