

Title	Demonstrate knowledge of theory for registration of drainlayers		
Level	4	Credits	10

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is for people who work, or intend to work, in the drainlaying industry.</p> <p>This unit standard covers the theory assessment required for registration as a drainlayer. To achieve this unit standard candidates can be assessed off-job and must pass the Drainlayer Registration Examination, which is based on the competencies set out in the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board (Drainlaying Registration and Licensing) Drainlaying Competencies Amendment Notice 2024 and described in the Examination Guide No. 9197 Drainlayer.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – workplace responsibilities, to meet the PGDB Drainlaying Registration Examination (reference 9197); – tools, equipment and materials, planning, and processes used in drainlaying work; – drainage and sewer systems; and – sustainable practices used in drainlaying work.
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Classification	Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying > Drainlaying
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Candidates who are working within the jurisdiction of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board must hold a current drainlaying limited certificate or exemption for drainlaying under supervision as issued under the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006.
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation and regulations relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:
AS/NZS 3500.2:2018 *Plumbing and drainage – Sanitary plumbing and drainage* available at <http://www.standards.co.nz>;
The Building Code, (Building Regulations 1992, Schedule 1);

Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods, published by Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment <https://www.building.govt.nz>;
Excavation Safety Good Practice Guidelines (Wellington: Worksafe, 2016) available at <https://worksafe.govt.nz>;

New Zealand Building Code Handbook, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment:

- E1: Surface Water
- G13: Foul Water
- G14: Industrial Liquid Waste;

Underground services - Guide for safety with underground services (Wellington: Department of Labour, 2002) available at <https://worksafe.govt.nz>;
and all subsequent amendments and replacements.

2 Range

To be eligible for registration as a drainlayer, candidates must complete a competency-based programme of learning approved by the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board (PGDB) and must pass the PGDB Drainlayer Registration Examination (reference 9197), which is based on the competencies set out in the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board (Drainlaying Registration and Licensing) Drainlaying Competencies Amendment Notice 2024. The examination is the only valid assessment tool for this unit standard, and credit for this unit standard may only be granted on evidence of passing the examination.

The Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Board (Drainlaying Registration and Licensing) Drainlaying Competencies Amendment Notice 2024 is the main reference for this examination.

- 3 From April 2025, there are registration class name changes for Drainlayers. Journeyman drainlayers are now restricted drainlayers, Tradesman drainlayers are now drainlayers. There will be no change in the class certifying drainlayer. Further details can be found on the PGD Board website, https://www.pgdb.co.nz/about_the_board/news/registration-class-name-changes.
- 4 Outcomes and performance criteria are aligned to the PGDB Plumber Registration Examination (reference 9192).

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of workplace responsibilities, to meet the PGDB Drainlaying Registration Examination (reference 9197).

Performance criteria

1.1 Explain workplace responsibilities, trade science, compliance and safety.

Range includes but is not limited to:

- trade calculations and science – application of formulae, corrosion protection, estimation, measurement, and calculation, hydraulic principles, laws of physics, thermal expansion, wastewater composition;
- health and safety – personal, public, site, environmental considerations in relation to personal safety, environmental impacts, preparation of safety plans;
- drainlaying as a regulated occupation – limitations on who can do or assist in doing drainlaying, requirements around carrying out drainlaying, responsibilities that apply to registered practitioners, understanding of regulatory environment, supervising people doing drainlaying;
- compliance documentation – Acts, regulations, acceptable solutions and verification methods, alternative solutions, standards, codes of practice, guidance, manufacturers, instructions, the hierarchy and relationships between the forms of documentation.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of tools, equipment and materials, planning, and processes used in drainlaying work.

Performance criteria

2.1 Explain the use and limitation of tools, equipment and materials, planning, and processes used in drainlaying work.

Range may include but is not limited to:

- products and materials – acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS), asbestos, bedding materials and backfill, cast iron, concrete, copper and copper alloys, ductile iron, earthenware, fibreglass, polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polyvinylchloride (PVC), stainless steel; tools and equipment; jointing methods; designs, drawings, and specifications;
- planning and processes – as-built plans, materials lists, plans, schematics, and specifications.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate knowledge of drainage and sewer systems.

Performance criteria

3.1 Explain matters relating to drainage and sewer systems.

Range includes but is not limited to:
foul water systems – on-site liquid trade waste systems,
on-site wastewater and effluent treatment and disposal systems,
on-site stormwater handling and disposal systems
pumped systems, stormwater systems, trade waste systems.

Outcome 4

Demonstrate knowledge of sustainable practices used in drainlaying work.

Performance criteria

4.1 Explain sustainable practices.

Range: sustainable practices include are but not limited to:
best environmental practice, water efficiency, water recycling,
waste minimisation

Planned review date	31 December 2030
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	16 April 2015	December 2026
Review	2	26 March 2020	December 2026
Review	3	26 June 2025	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0003
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council qualifications@waihangaararau.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.