

Engineering registration requirements in Queensland

A fact sheet for Professional Engineers who are considering working in or for Queensland and the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

This fact sheet will provide you with registration information if you are considering a move to the state of Queensland, are looking to apply for a job with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) or if you are just curious about engineering registration requirements.

Engineering registration in Queensland

Engineers carry out highly complex work that impact the people of Queensland and it is appropriate, just like many other professions, that they meet and uphold high standards of professional practice.

In Queensland the Professional Engineers Act 2002 (the Act) aims to protect the public by ensuring professional engineering services are provided by a registered professional engineer in a professional and competent way.

Any engineer wanting to undertake professional engineering services in Queensland, or for Queensland, is legally required to register with the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland (the Board). Once you are registered with the Board you can legally call yourself a RPEQ – a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland.

There is an exception in the Act that states you can perform professional engineering services without being a RPEQ if you are under the direct supervision of a RPEQ who is responsible for the services.

Most organisations, including TMR, will expect experienced engineers to already be a RPEQ or be eligible to become one. You are eligible to become registered if you hold a Washington Accord (WA) accredited engineering qualification (or equivalent) and have four to five years engineering work experience (post-graduation).

Maximise your market potential

If you are considering applying for engineering jobs in Queensland, here are some strategies to get started:

Find out if your qualification is Washington Accord Accredited

Australia is a member of the International Engineering Alliance so to be a professional engineer you will need to have a four-year Washington Accord Accredited engineering qualification.

If you have an Australian engineering qualification you can check the accredited list of qualifications on Engineers Australia's [website](#). Overseas qualifications can be checked on the [International Engineering Alliance](#) website.

If you don't have a WA accredited engineering qualification, contact Engineers Australia about undertaking a [Stage 1 Competency Assessment](#) or a [Migration Skills Assessment](#) (if moving from overseas).

Get assessed

If you are an experienced engineer with four to five years engineering experience, then getting assessed by one of the Boards authorised assessment entities is critical as this is a requirement to become a RPEQ. Make sure you add this assessment to your résumé.

Become a RPEQ

The best way to maximise your chances of getting that job. At TMR all our senior engineering positions PO4 and above must be filled by a RPEQ so if you are eligible, apply to the board as soon as possible.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I become a RPEQ?

Becoming a RPEQ is a four-stage process:

1. Be Qualified – RPEQs require a four-year Washington Accord (WA) accredited undergraduate degree in engineering (or equivalent as assessed by Engineers Australia).
2. Gain Engineering Experience – Get experience working as an engineer and carrying out professional engineering services (four to five years post-graduation).
3. Get Assessed – Undertake a qualification and competency assessment by one of the Boards authorised assessment entities. For a list of authorised bodies visit www.bpeq.qld.gov.au. These assessments are usually accompanied by a post-nominal such as CPEng (Chartered Professional Engineer), NER (National Engineering Register), RPEng (Registered Professional Engineer). These assessments also require evidence of Continuing Professional Development (CPD).
4. Apply to the Board – Using the letter of assessment attained in step 3, apply to the Board which will assess your fitness to practice and then register you to practice in Queensland.

Can I still apply for a job at TMR even if I am not a RPEQ?

Yes, you can still apply for positions that require a RPEQ if you have already undertaken an assessment through one of the authorised assessment bodies, such as:

- CPEng (Engineers Australia)
- NER (Engineers Australia)
- PEng/RPEng (Association of Professional Engineers Australia)
- A successful assessment from one of the other approved assessment bodies.

You will still need to be a RPEQ to be eligible for successful appointment to the position. It is recommended that you apply directly to the Board for registration as soon as possible.

For more information on becoming a RPEQ, direct supervision, authorised assessment bodies or professional engineering services it is recommended you visit the Boards website at www.bpeq.qld.gov.au.