

QUALIFICATION DETAILS

Qualification number/Te nama o te tohu mātauranga	XXXX		
English title/Taitara Ingarihi	New Zealand Certificate in Wastewater Plant Operations (Level 4) with optional strands in Activated Sludge, Effluent Land Application, Effluent Disinfection, Fixed Growth Reactor, Effluent Filtration, Nutrient Removal, Preliminary Treatment, Separation, Sludge Treatment		
Māori title/Taitara Māori	N/A		
Version number/Te putanga	1	Qualification type/Te momo tohu	Certificate
Level/Te kaupae	4	Credits/Ngā whiwhinga	120
NZSCED/Whakaraupapa	030907 Engineering and Related Technologies>Civil Engineering>Water and Sanitary Engineering		
Qualification developer/Te kaihanganga tohu	Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council		
Review Date /Te rā arotake	31 December 2030		

OUTCOME STATEMENT/TE TAUĀKI Ā-HUA

Strategic Purpose statement/ Te rautaki o te tohu

The purpose of this qualification is to provide the wastewater treatment industry with individuals who have the skills and knowledge to carry out routine responsibilities for the control of wastewater treatment processes, and operation of a wastewater treatment plant.

This qualification has optional strands to recognise the skills required for the operation of various treatment processes.

This qualification is designed for people who are working in the water services industry.

Graduates of this qualification will be able to work in wastewater operator roles in a wastewater plant.

Graduates of this qualification will work independently.

Graduate Profile/Ngā hua o te tohu

Graduates of this qualification will be able to:

- Implement and communicate health, safety, and compliance requirements for a wastewater treatment plant
- Manage and operate treatment plant to meet compliance requirements
- Monitor and report on wastewater treatment operations to meet compliance requirements.

Graduates of the Activated Sludge optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage activated sludge processes

Graduates of the optional Effluent Land Application optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage effluent application to land

Graduates of the Effluent Disinfection optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage effluent disinfection processes

Graduates of the Fixed Growth Reactor optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage fixed growth reactor processes

Graduates of the Effluent Filtration optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage effluent filtration processes

Graduates of the Nutrient Removal optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage nutrient removal processes

Graduates of the Preliminary Treatment optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage preliminary treatment processes

Graduates of the Separation optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage separation processes

Graduates of the Sludge Treatment optional strand will also be able to:

- Manage sludge treatment processes

Education Pathway/ Ngā huarahi mātauranga

This qualification can lead on from the New Zealand Certificate in Water Services (Level 3) [Ref: XXXX].

Employment, Cultural, Community Pathway/ Ko ngā huarahi ā-mahi, ā-ahurea, ā-whānau, ā-hapū, ā-iwi, ā-hapori anō hoki

Graduates of this qualification will have the knowledge and skills to work as waste-water treatment plant operators.

QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATIONS/ NGĀ TAUWHĀITITANGA O TE TOHU

Qualification Award/ Te whakawhiwhinga o te tohu	This qualification can be awarded by any organisation that has an approved programme or is accredited to deliver an approved programme leading to this qualification.
Evidence requirements for assuring consistency/ Ngā taunaki hei whakaū i te tauritenga	Evidence requirements may include analysis of: • Programme statistics such as completion data and destination data. • Surveys of graduates and feedback from other end users to determine that graduates have met the graduate profile outcomes of the qualification. • Evidence from external moderation processes.
Minimum standard of achievement and standards for grade endorsements/ Te pae o raro e tutuki ai, ngā paerewa hoki hei whakaatu i te taumata o te whakatutukinga	Achieved.
Other requirements for the qualification (including regulatory body or legislative requirements)/ Kō ētahi atu here o te tohu (tae atu hoki ki ngā here ā-hinonga whakamarumarū, ki ngā here ā-ture rānei)	None.
General conditions for programme/ Ngā tikanga whānui	Programmes must use mandatory skill standards listed in the Conditions relating to the graduate

o te hōtaka	profile below. Programmes must be in accordance with current standards, acts and legislation. Current standards can be accessed at: https://standards.co.nz. Current Acts, legislation and regulations can be accessed at: https://legislation.govt.nz. Programme delivery must reflect safe working practices. Approved Codes and Practice and best/good practice guidelines can be accessed at: https://worksafe.govt.nz. Programmes must be delivered in the context of a water services environment operating at an industry acceptable standard. Programme guidance is available at: qualifications@waihangaararau.nz. Programme Endorsements Providers are advised to refer to the Workforce Development Council Programme Endorsement considerations on: • Programme content • Equity for learners • Programme engagement and consultation • Te ao Māori • Pacific languages and learners • Disabled people. Supporting information for programme developers on programme endorsement is available at waihangaararau.nz.
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CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE GRADUATE PROFILE /NGĀ TIKANGA E HĀNGAI ANA KI NGĀ HUA O TE TOHU

Qualification outcomes/ Ngā hua		Credits/Ngā whiwhinga	Conditions/Ngā tikanga
1	Implement and communicate health, safety, and compliance requirements for a wastewater treatment plant	15 credits	L4-1 Manage risk in a water services environment (Level 4, 5 credits) L4-4 Manage compliance in water services (Level 4, 5 credits) L3-C1 Identify protective measures for natural or managed water bodies used for extraction and discharge (Level 3, 5 credits)
2	Manage and operate treatment plant to meet compliance requirements	80 credits	L4-5 - Operate a water services treatment plant (Level 4, 30 credits) F5-1 - Operate preliminary wastewater treatment processes (Level 4, 15 credits) Apply mathematical principles to solve problems in water services (5 credits) Apply science to water services (5 credits) F5-2 - Manage sludge in wastewater treatment (Level 4, 10 credits) Analyse the wastewater treatment process (15 credits)
3	Monitor, maintain, and report on	25 credits	L4-6 Maintain plant and equipment in water

	wastewater treatment operations to meet compliance requirements.		services operations (Level 4, 20 credits) Carry out sampling and testing (5 credits)
Activated Sludge Strand			
4	Manage activated sludge processes	15 credits	F5-1 - Operate activated sludge processes in wastewater treatment (15 credits)
Effluent Land Application Strand			
5	Manage effluent application to land	15 credits	F5-7 – Manage wastewater effluent application to land
Effluent Disinfection Strand			
6	Manage effluent disinfection processes	15 credits	F5-7 - Operate effluent disinfection processes in wastewater treatment
Fixed Growth Reactor Strand			
7	Manage fixed growth reactor processes	15 credits	F5-4 - Operate fixed growth reactor processes in wastewater treatment.docx
Effluent Filtration Strand			
8	Manage effluent filtration processes	15 credits	F5-7 - Operate effluent disinfection processes in wastewater treatment.docx
Nutrient Removal Strand			
9	Manage nutrient removal processes	15 credits	F5-8 - Operate nutrient removal processes in wastewater treatment
Preliminary Treatment Strand			
10	Manage preliminary treatment processes	15 credits	F5-2 - Operate preliminary wastewater treatment processes.docx
Separation Strand			
11	Manage separation processes	15 credits	F5-3 - Operate separation processes in wastewater treatment.docx
Sludge Treatment Strand			
12	Manage sludge treatment processes	15 credits	F5-2 - Operate sludge treatment processes in wastewater treatment.docx

TRANSITION INFORMATION/ HE KŌRERO WHAKAWHITI

Replacement information/ He kōrero mō te whakakapi	This qualification replaces the New Zealand Certificate in Wastewater Treatment (Level 4) with optional strand in Multistage Processes [Ref: 4142].
Additional transition information/ Kō ētahi atu kōrero mō te	Version Information Version 1 of this qualification was published in

whakakapi	XXXX 2026. Please refer to Qualifications and Assessment Standards Approvals for further information. It is not intended that anyone be disadvantaged by these transition arrangements. However, anyone who feels they have been disadvantaged can appeal to: Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council PO Box 27-048 Wellington 6140 Phone: 04 909 0174 Email: Qualifications@waihangaararau.nz Website: www.waihangaararau.nz Please refer to Qualifications and Assessment Standards Approvals for further information.
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