

The scope of the scheme

The scope of the plumbing scheme is detailed in the statutory instrument 2006 No 652 as follows:

'Installation of a sanitary convenience, washing facility or bathroom in a dwelling, which does not involve work on shared or underground drainage'

Hot water storage systems are covered within NAPIT's heating scheme.

Notifiable works

The installation of sanitary conveniences, washing facilities or bathrooms will need to be notified if the water supply or drainage systems are altered.

Scheme entry requirements

In order to recognise the variety of workers in the plumbing field a number of flexible scheme entry routes have been proposed to government, these are detailed below:

Experience Required:

In all cases applicants must be able to demonstrate 3 years experience. Experience can be gained during training but at least 18 months must be post qualification experience.

Qualifications Required:

In all cases a certificate covering Water Regulations must be held. For plumbing qualifications the following routes are allowed:

Route 1 – NVQ Level 2 or 3

Route 2 – Technical Certificate Level 2 together with an appropriate *portfolio of evidence**.

Route 3 – C&G Craft Certificate together with an appropriate *portfolio of evidence**.

Route 4 – Applicants with experience but without any formal qualification in plumbing can complete the *Experienced Plumber Programme**.

Route 5 – An existing Registrant without any of the above will be given time to complete one of the above routes.

* *at the time of going to press it is possible to register first and complete the portfolio of evidence (route 2 or 3) or experienced plumber programme (route 4) when they are made available later. It is expected that government requirements will require this to be completed before registration in the future.*

Other requirements:

Applicants will be required to satisfy the following requirements:

Insurance – £2m Public Liability Insurance.

Instruments – there must be access to sufficient instruments to carry out tests relevant to the scope of work carried out by the applicant and which could include: hydraulic pressure as per Water Regulations, performance tests (pressure, flow and temperature), discharge pipework pressure test.

Technical Reference Documents – where relevant to the work they carry out individuals should hold or have access to current editions of the Water Regulations Guide, Approved Documents G and H, BS6700, BSEN806 (parts 1, 2 and 3), BSEN12056 (parts 1, 2 and 5), BS6465 (parts 1 and 2).

Inspection Requirements:

All applicants will be assessed by NAPIT Inspectors to ensure the work activity is being carried out competently before being allowed into the scheme. The assessment will confirm operative competence by assessing work carried out on-site and checking individual knowledge. The systems in place for administering and controlling the activity will also be assessed.

Note: The scope of the scheme will include the use of unwholesome water from April 2010. This will extend the situations where work needs to be notified. Membership achieved prior to April 2010 will cover the new requirements and will be assessed during future inspections.

Qualification criteria, experience requirements and notifiable works are correct at the time of going to press but are subject to change due to government legislation. Check www.napit.org.uk for up to date information