

Offshore Technical Skills Record (OTSR) Information Sheet



What is an Offshore Technical Skills Record (OTSR)?

An OTSR is a nationally recognised document that entitles the holder to a provisional licence. Most Australian state and territory regulatory bodies have agreed for the OTSR to be accepted as a form of 'entry level' licence. However, please note that licensing and registration is a state-based responsibility in Australia and some states have their own criteria for issuing licences.

How do I obtain an OTSR?

If you successfully complete the VETASSESS practical assessment for a licensed trade, you will be issued an OTSR.

Licensed trades assessed by VETASSESS are:

- Electrician (General and Special Class)
- Air-conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanic
- Plumber.

Why do I receive an OTSR and not a Certificate III qualification?

The VETASSESS practical assessment will assess whether you have the technical skills to perform the range of duties required in your occupation. However, you will not have important knowledge specific to Australian industry, such as occupational health and safety regulations, codes of practice and other Australian standards. This is why you will receive an OTSR, and not an Australian qualification.

You must complete gap training and work under supervision when you arrive in Australia, before you can be awarded a Certificate III in your occupation.

Does an OTSR allow me to work in Australia?

When you arrive in Australia, you will need to apply to the relevant State/Territory licensing regulator for a provisional licence/registration. This will allow you to work under the supervision of a qualified tradesperson. You must present your OTSR to the licensing regulator in your state.

Contact details of licensing authorities for all states/territories may be found at: <http://www.licencerecognition.gov.au/authorities.aspx>

What gap training will I need to complete in Australia?

The gap training will consist of:

- gaining essential knowledge and skills from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO)
- completing up to 12 months on-the-job work experience with an employer and providing evidence of experience gained on-the-job.

Please refer to the following links for further information regarding gap training:

- Electrical trades:
Contact Energy Skills Australia
Website: <http://e-oz.com.au>
- Plumbing Trades:
Contact Trades Recognition Australia
Phone: 1 300360 992
Email: tradeenquiries@Education.gov.au

What happens after I complete the gap training?

Once you have successfully completed the gap training and been issued with a Statement of Attainment from the RTO, you can either:

- Apply to the RTO (where you completed your gap training) for your Certificate III qualification. You can present this qualification to the relevant licensing regulator to be issued a full licence.

OR

- Apply to VETASSESS for your Certificate III qualification. VETASSESS will review the gap training you completed and issue you with the required Certificate III qualification. You can present this qualification to the relevant licensing regulator to be issued a full licence. VETASSESS will charge an administrative fee of \$120 for conducting this service and issuing the qualification.