

Swimming Pool Building

QUALIFICATION DEVELOPMENT – JUNE 2025



A New Zealand qualification for swimming pool building will enhance industry reputation, and support employee retention by providing clear career pathways. The formal qualification will ensure a consistent level of expertise, improve service quality, and create a more attractive and sustainable industry for current and future employees. This will lead to the end-users gaining more trust and respect in the quality of delivery.

What are we doing?

Waihangā Ara Rau¹, with the support of SPASA and industry representatives, will lead a process that meets NZQA's listing requirements and will consult with industry for development of a qualification in swimming pool building.

The qualification will recognise trade competence for the building and installation of swimming pools, with a focus on domestic/residential swimming pools. It may also include installation of different types of pools, such as:

- Fiberglass
- Concrete
- Above Ground
- Pre-cast

Scope

This scope of the project is development and registration of the qualification for swimming pool building. This will include identifying the individual skill sets that would lead to a person being a competent swimming pool builder. Where skill standards² exist that describe the skill sets, they will be listed in the qualification. Waihangā Ara Rau will document the remaining key skills and recommend these for skill standard development to the Industry Skills Board (ISB)³.

How are we doing this?

Waihangā Ara Rau will complete the project in stages to help provide project clarity as we prepare for transition to Industry Skills Boards (ISBs).

The previously completed stages are:

- Development of [Core Construction skill standards](#).

The proposed stages and timeframes are:

Stage	Action	Indicative timeframe - 2025		
		Mid - June	July	Aug - Oct
Informing industry	Communicate material publicly to gather feedback and invite industry participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Webpage information- Newsletter distribution- Email contacts			
Preparing for working group	Waihangā Ara Rau insights and meeting co-ordination in preparation for working group.			
Working group consultation	Meet with industry experts in to evaluate insights and feedback to draft qualification details			
Wider consultation	Present draft qualification to wider industry representation for validation.			
Submission to NZQA	Prepare qualification submission documentation and submit to NZQA for evaluation and approval.			

¹ Waihangā Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council [Waihangā Ara Rau | About Us](#)

² Skill standards recognise the individual skill sets required for swimming pool building. Where skill standards exist, they must be listed in the qualification. For more information [Guidelines for listing skill standards on the Directory of Assessment and Skill Standards - NZQA](#)

³ The government is disestablishing WDCs at the end of 2025 and is setting up ISBs from 1 January 2026. [Consultation on Industry Skills Boards' coverage | Tertiary Education Commission](#)