

# Certificate IV in Plumbing and Services and Diploma of Hydraulic Services Design Update

## August 28<sup>th</sup> 2020 Update

Well, how things can change so quickly. We have had a complete turn-around from the last update that we issued and apologise for the confusion.

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, Artibus endorsed the new training packages for implementation which includes the following two courses:

- CPC40920 Certificate IV in Plumbing and Services
- CPC50620 Diploma of Hydraulic Services Design

The confirmation of endorsement was received by TAFE (NSW) on the evening of Friday 14<sup>th</sup>. TAFE (NSW) have reviewed the Training Packages and found that there are some substantial changes. The key changes that affect us at the moment are:

- There is no longer a requirement to carry out the 200 hours of workplace training as Supplementary Evidence for either course.
- The Certificate IV now has 1 x additional unit.
- The Diploma has had 4 units removed.

This has some big effects on what and how TAFE(NSW) were intending on delivering these courses in the near future.

### **Certificate IV in Plumbing and Services (Hydraulic)**

Given there is an additional Unit in the new Certificate IV, TAFE (NSW) do not wish to progress with delivering the old version of the Certificate IV (Hydraulic). If they did, students would still have to complete an additional Unit once they had completed the old course. This would mean re-enrolling in a new course to complete just one Unit. Therefore, it would be best to put all new students into the new Certificate IV course so that once they complete, they can move directly into the Diploma. The other effect of doing this is that there is no requirement for Workplace Training, which would have been 2 days of work experience. While this Workplace Training would be beneficial for the student, there was concern about placements given many Consulting businesses are feeling stretched due to COVID-19 and lack of available work.

The downside of this option is that TAFE (NSW) need some time to review the training package in detail and ensure all of their delivery material is compliant. The effect of this is

that the Certificate IV (Hydraulic) will now be offered in Term 1 of 2021. We apologise for the delay, particularly given we have only just delayed the course a few weeks back. However, we believe this is the best way forward for all concerned.

In Term 1, 2021, the main focus will continue to be to get all students who are transferring from the Certificate IV (Operations) enrolled first. These students can expect to have their Certificate IV completed within 1 term and will be able to start studying the Diploma in Term 2, 2021.

Other students who are enrolling in the Certificate IV (Hydraulic) from scratch will continue to complete their studies over an estimated 18 months before entering the Diploma.

### **Diploma of Hydraulic Services Design**

The Diploma has also had some change with the reduction in the number of units to be completed and the removal of the Workplace Experience requirement. In addition, the units that are retained have been amended, so we will need to review all new material that we have produced over the last year to ensure compliance.

As mentioned above, there will be a cohort of students that will complete the Certificate IV (Hydraulic) in Term 1 of 2021. These students will be able to commence study of the Diploma in Term 2 of 2021.

### **Workplace Experience**

While the Workplace Experience and associated logbook are no longer mandatory in the Training Package, we would still recommend that students move into an office environment while studying. If full-time positions are not available, students could try to obtain some unpaid Work Experience with a Consultant during their studies. The benefits include access to computers, software, standards, printers/scanners and the knowledge of the other Consultants in the office. This will all help the student to get through their assessments/studies and prepare them for a career in the office. We understand that a permanent role in an office will not suit everyone, particularly those who may own their own Plumbing business. However, we do encourage those not moving into an office to consider some work experience.

### **Course Delivery**

Both of the courses mentioned above will continue to be delivered by "Blended Delivery". This means there will be face-to-face classes held in North Sydney and all regional/interstate students will study using Microsoft Teams. There is no change to this with these updates.

For all students interested in the course, the best way to do this is to send your details and transcripts to Glenn Martyn at TAFE (NSW) so that he can contact you when they are ready. Glenn's contact email is:

[Glenn.martyn@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:Glenn.martyn@tafensw.edu.au)

We understand the frustration that course details are not on TAFE (NSW)'s website at this stage, but be assured these will be uploaded as soon as the information is available and has been through the appropriate quality/approval processes. In the meantime, send your information to Glenn. In terms of new enrolments, TAFE (NSW) will contact all students who have registered their interest, in both courses, directly and inform them of when and how to enrol.

### **Zoom Meeting**

The HCAA hosted a Zoom meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020 to discuss these issues. This started with a short presentation about the changes and was followed by a good Q&A session. If you missed the meeting, it was recorded and is available for viewing at the following link:

<https://www.hcaa.org.au/resources/employment-students-studying-hydraulic-services-webinar-video>

If you have further questions, please email me or call my mobile if you wish to discuss any aspect of the Diploma.

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Hydraulic Consultants Association Australasia (HCAA)