



An Coimisiún
um Rialáil Fóntas
**Commission for
Regulation of Utilities**

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Essential Learning Outcomes / Key Understandings of the Accepted Irish Professional Qualifications for entry to the RGI Scheme. Information for Eligible Persons under S.I. 8/2017

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Supporting CRU documentation

You must read this document in conjunction with the below:

- Guidance Notes for the Gas Recognition Process for International Qualifications for Eligible Persons under S.I. 8/2017 – RGI Scheme
- Gas Recognition Process Application Form (International Qualifications) for Eligible Persons under S.I. 8/2017

1. Background

The Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) is the Competent Authority for gas installers in the Republic of Ireland (ROI). The CRU regulates the activities of gas installers with respect to safety. The CRU carries out this function through a statutory regulatory scheme, known as the RGI (Registered Gas Installers) scheme. The CRU's regulatory objective, with regard to the implementation and operation of the RGI scheme ("the scheme"), is to protect the safety interests of customers, primarily in a domestic setting, with respect to gas works.

The statutory registration scheme is fundamental to the delivery of quality and accountability in the provision of regulated Gas Works in Ireland and ensures that members of the public availing of the services of RGIs can be confident that they are properly regulated and qualified for the job.

The European Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive 2005/36/EC¹ ("the Directive"), as transposed into Irish law by S.I. 8 of 2017 European Union (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations 2017, obliges the CRU to put in place a system of recognition for eligible persons with relevant qualifications from outside of the Republic of Ireland, applying for registration to the scheme to become an RGI. The Directive applies to nationals of Member State countries.³

Note: Applicants who hold professional qualification(s) gained outside the ROI and wish to become an RGI must make an application for registration to the scheme through this recognition process to have their qualification(s) recognised by the CRU's Panel of Experts ("the Panel").

¹ [Directive 2005/36/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council, which was amended by the Directive [2013/55/EU](#)

2. Accepted Irish Qualifications

The Gas Criteria Document⁴, sets out how the RGI scheme operates. The current qualification requirements to become an RGI are as follows:

- a. An Advanced Craft Certificate in Plumbing, Gas Fitting, Refrigeration, or Electrical Level 6 (NFQ⁵).

AND

- b. A Domestic Gas Safety (DGS) award or equivalent.

All RGIs are also required to undergo the mandatory DGA course every five years.

The entry requirements to the scheme were decided in consultation with industry stakeholders. Requirements are set at a level to ensure scheme members have the appropriate training and knowledge to safely carry out the regulated Gas Works.

The Advanced Craft Certificate is a four-year apprenticeship programme in ROI which prepares the participant for their specific occupation. The DGS is a supplemental award and takes 16 days to complete. The purpose of this award is to provide participants with the knowledge, skill and competence to safely carry out domestic gas works in accordance with applicable standards, legislation and guidelines.

In August 2019, the CRU published a decision paper⁶ on the recognition processes for professional qualifications. In June 2023, an Information Note was published alongside this document setting out changes since that decision paper was published. That decision paper, however, set out that the CRU would establish a Panel to review applications from people with relevant non-Irish professional qualifications. This Panel will continue to assess applications.

Applicants will be required to fill out the application form with the relevant details relating to their qualification(s) and professional experience. You must provide an Attestation of Competence(s) to demonstrate your qualifications and/or work experience. The Panel of Experts will review the applications and assess if Applicants have demonstrated an appropriate level of competence to be eligible to register with the RGI scheme.

The Panel will use the information provided by each Applicant and review their application against the list of Essential Learning Outcomes/Key Understandings of the relevant accepted Irish qualification(s). Section 3 of this document (below) sets out the essential learning outcomes for the accepted Irish qualifications, knowledge of which is essential in order to become a Registered Gas

Installer (RGI) within the scheme. This assessment enables the Panel to determine whether you are qualified for the same profession as RGI in Ireland. The Panel may be satisfied that the Applicant has sufficiently demonstrated their competence and the Applicant may then apply to join the RGI Scheme.

If there are any substantial differences (deficits) between the Applicant's qualification(s) and the Essential Learning Outcomes, the Panel will assess if the Applicant's professional work experience addresses these deficits.

The Panel will then decide if compensation measures need to be applied to bridge any remaining substantial deficits, namely by providing Applicants with the opportunity to complete an aptitude test in the form of an interview or completing an Adaptation Period. Partial Access will also be considered as an appropriate outcome.

⁴ The Gas Criteria Document is subject to amendment from time to time. The [Gas Safety Supervisory Criteria Document Version 1.7](#) was published by the CRU on 13th August 2020.

⁵ The National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) is a system of ten levels used to describe the Irish qualifications system. The NFQ is based on standards of knowledge, skill and competence and incorporates awards made for all kinds of learning.

⁶ [Decision Paper on the Recognition Processes for Professional Qualifications for entry to the Safe Electric and RGI Schemes | CRU.ie](#)

Qualifications in the following sectors are considered relevant to the RGI scheme:

- Gas
- Plumbing
- Gas Fitter or Pipefitting
- Refrigeration
- Electrical qualification(s).

Note: Applicants with electrical qualification will need additional relevant qualifications **and** experience related to gas.

and/or

- Qualification(s) which have qualified you to practise as a Gas Installer in the Member State where it was obtained/recognised.

Note: If you have any combination of the above qualifications, you should include them in your application. (including expired qualifications).

The application form provides you with the opportunity to voluntarily provide additional information demonstrating your qualifications and work experience meets the essential learning outcomes of the relevant accepted Irish qualification(s).

All applications to the gas recognition process will be assessed against these essential learning outcomes. Applicants must demonstrate to the Panel that their relevant professional qualification(s) and work experience meets the relevant essential learning outcomes. Evidence must be provided as part of the recognition application process.

If sufficient evidence is not demonstrated in your application, after seeking to obtain this information from the Applicant or relevant authority, compensation measures may be necessary, if deemed appropriate by the Panel of Experts. The compensation measures will provide Applicants with an opportunity to demonstrate sufficient knowledge.

3. Essential Learning Outcomes/Key Understandings

The Panel will assess Applicants against the following relevant categories:

The Domestic Gas Safety (DGS) Award

No.	The Domestic Gas Safety (DGS) Award - Essential Learning Outcomes – Key Understandings
1	Identify the relevant legislation and standards appropriate to domestic gas works
2	Explain gas combustion in terms of requirements, flammability, measurement, ventilation and associated hazards
3	Describe the installation process for domestic gas systems to include specification, selection, construction, commissioning, de-commissioning, inspection and testing of meters, appliances, pipework and chimneys
4	Describe liquefied petroleum gas storage, with respect to the siting and connection of storage bottles, bulk tanks and appliances
5	Outline the process for the maintenance and repair of domestic gas appliances including the completion of relevant paperwork
6	Explain the electrical requirements associated with the installation of domestic gas appliances including electrical theory, component installation, connectivity, test equipment and testing methodology
7	Perform a range of calculations associated with domestic gas appliance installation including complete and partial combustion, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide ratios, and ventilation requirements
8	Assess the suitability of new or existing chimneys for a gas installation
9	Perform a safety assessment on a domestic gas installation to include leak detection, and production of a safety report
10	Install a domestic gas appliance taking all required steps including specification, selection, installation, commissioning, and testing, of all gas and electrical components in accordance with relevant legislation and manufacturer's guidelines
11	Maintain a range of domestic gas appliances including fault analysis and reporting, and making appropriate recommendations for problem resolution on a range of domestic gas appliances
12	Remove a domestic gas installation taking all required steps for decommissioning and disposal of gas and electrical components.

3.1 Plumbing Advanced Craft Certificate

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the following through their qualification and experience:

No.	Plumbing Essential Learning Outcomes- Key Understandings
1	Demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance procedures used in the trade of plumbing.
2	Evaluate key theoretical concepts used in the planning, design, installation and diagnostics of water and heating systems pertinent to domestic and industrial environments.
3	Demonstrate comprehensive range of specialised plumbing skills using all commonly used plumbing hand and power tools in compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation and best practice
4	Exercise appropriate judgement in planning, design, diagnostics and delivering all services, installations and maintenance processes relating to the plumbing trade
5	Transfer and apply theoretical understanding and technical know-how to inspect, diagnose faults, maintain and repair piping systems in a wide variety of domestic and industrial contexts.

3.2 Pipefitting Advanced Craft Certificate

No.	Pipefitting - Essential Learning Outcomes -Key Understandings
1	Can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of thermal processes including welding (various types) and cutting.
2	Can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of pipe processes including materials, components and fittings, preparation, jointing, bending, and testing.
3	Can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of pipe installation including rigging, assembly, components, ancillary piping equipment, services, and bracketing.
4	Can demonstrate comprehensive range of specialised fitter/pipefitting skills using all commonly used hand and power tools in compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation and best practice.

3.3 Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Advanced Craft Certificate

No.	Refrigeration and Air Conditioning - Essential Learning Outcomes -- Key Understandings.
1	Can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of pipe processes including installation, commissioning and testing procedures used in the trade of refrigeration - including pipework, brazing, tubing, pressure and leaking testing.
2	Can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of electrical installations relating to refrigeration and air conditioning - including earth/bonding and testing, cabling, controls, solenoid valves and thermostats, transformers, and wiring components.
3	Can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of the maintenance and repair processes used in the trade of refrigeration and air conditioning.
4	Can demonstrate a comprehensive range of specialised refrigeration skills using all commonly used hand and power tools in compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation and best practice.

3.4 Electrical Advanced Craft Certificate

Applicants with electrical qualification(s) will need additional relevant qualification(s) and/or experience related to gas. As stated in the decision paper, if an Applicant holds a relevant electrical qualification(s) only, he/she will need to demonstrate electrical competence via the electrical recognition process.