

Course in Electrician –
Minimum Australian Context Gap
(11297NAT)

**Energy Skills Australia (ESA) & TAFE SA
Candidate Information Kit**

Congratulations on successfully completing a skills assessment in the technical components of the UEE30820 – Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician qualification and being issued an Offshore Technical Skills Record (OTSR) or Australian Technical Competencies Statement (ATCS).

The OTSR and ATCS list the technical skills that have been demonstrated against the UEE30820 - Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician qualification assessed by a Trades Recognition Australia (TRA) approved Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

However, there is a difference between Australian and overseas occupational practices because of different standards, regulations and industry codes of practice/guidelines. This gap in knowledge and skills specific to Australian work practices is known as the "Australian Context Gap".

11297NAT is a nationally accredited course developed to cover and address the "Australian Context Gap" and can only be undertaken in Australia by an RTO licensed by Energy Skills Australia. TAFE SA is an approved RTO and is licensed by Energy Skills Australia (ESA) to deliver this course.

11297NAT includes:

- Gaining required skills and knowledge from an RTO.
- Completing work experience under appropriate supervision and recorded via Exemplar Profiling (the approved workplace recording system).
- Passing a compliance assessment that covers verifying the safety and compliance of electrical installation wiring and equipment including all the relevant and mandatory tests, in accordance with the relevant standards of the states and territories.

To achieve Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician qualification, OTSR/ATCS holders are required to successfully complete 11297NAT and a period of supervised work experience in Australia.

A licence is required to work in all states and territories and an OTSR entitles the holder a provisional or temporary licence as an Electrician, subject to meeting other licencing requirements. In South Australia a "provisional" restricted licence can be issued by [Consumer and Business Services \(CBS\)](#).

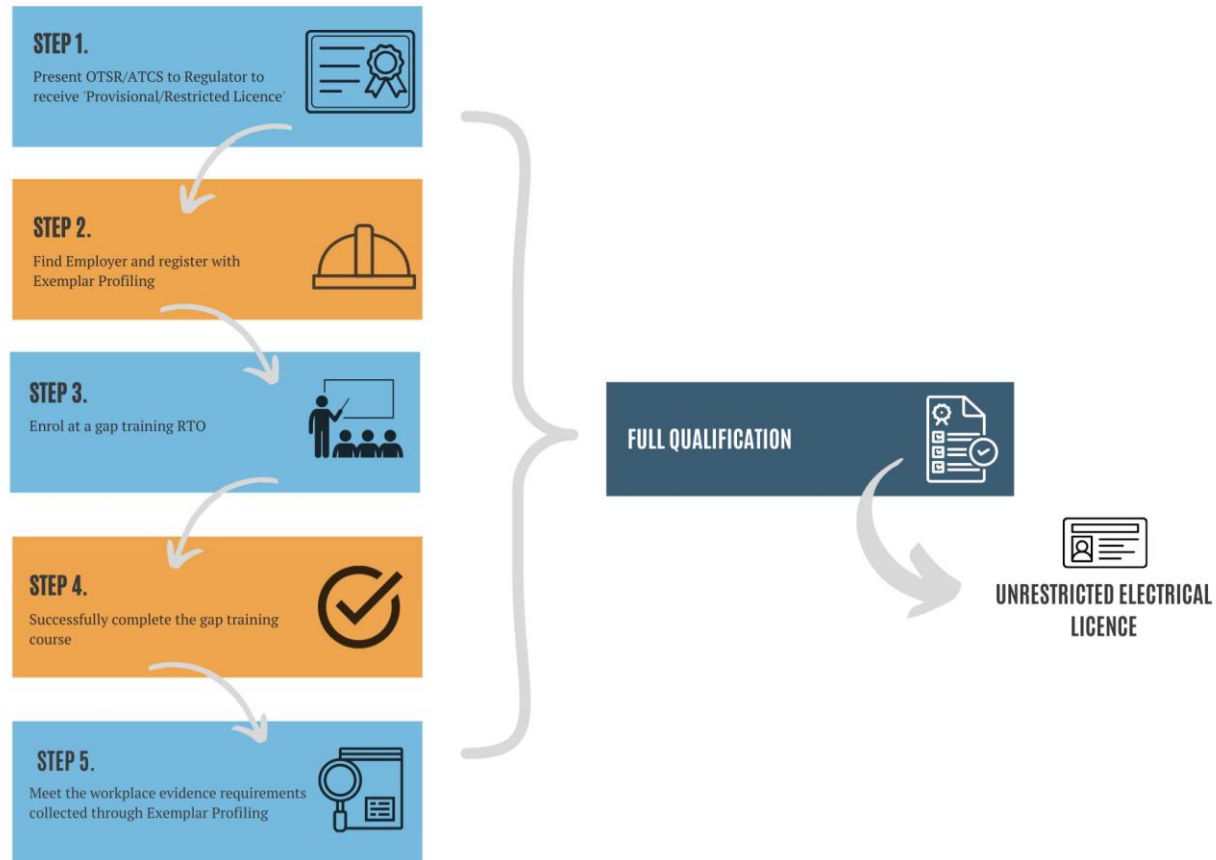
An ATCS entitles the holder to a provisional or temporary licence as an Electrician, subject to meeting other licencing requirements in Victoria and New South Wales.

The kit is intended to provide guidance and relevant information regarding the steps required to undertake and complete 11297NAT accredited course and progress towards completion of the Certificate III qualification and issuance of the occupational licence, as well as other useful information you may need to know about the Australian Electrotechnology Industry and training sector.

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Overview of the Process



STEP 1 - Provisional occupational license/permit

Australian Electrical Industry regulators have agreed to issue a provisional (restricted) licence upon presentation of an OTSR or ATCS in Victoria and New South Wales. This permit allows candidates to work in Australia under the supervision of an employer, while the 'Australian Context Gap' component of each competency standard unit is completed i.e. 11297NAT.

The contact details for each Australian Electrical Industry licensing regulators are included in Table 1 overleaf. In South Australia the relevant authority is Consumer and Business Services (CBS).

Regulatory Authorities will be able to advise you about any additional specific licensing requirements or conditions relevant to their jurisdiction.

Applying for a "Provisional" Licence with Consumer and Business Services

Step 1 – visit the [Consumer and Business Services](#) website

Step 2 – Select the "[Work & Business Licences](#)" and under the "Building and trades" heading select "[Plumbers, gas fitters & electricians licence or registration](#)"

Step 3 – Select the "Check if your interstate or overseas licence is recognised in SA" option

Plumbing, gas fitting and electrical registration and contractors' licences

Individuals, including partners in a business, and companies must be licensed as plumbing, gas fitting or electrical (PGE) contractors if they run a business that carries out or organises that type of work.

If you do the physical trade work, you'll also need to register as a plumber, gas fitter or electrician. Check if your [interstate or overseas licence](#) is recognised in SA.

Apply for a licence or registration

Complete the form online, then print, sign, scan and upload it (if you can't complete the form online phone [131 882](#) to discuss your options with CBS staff).

You'll need [supporting documents](#) and a photo to complete your registration or licence application.

[Application fees](#) →

Start now

Related pages

→ [Renew your licence](#)

→ [Work licence cards and ID](#)

Step 4 – Select the “other overseas licences” tab option

Recognition of interstate and overseas work licences

Individual workers and contractors (not companies) who hold licences for occupations that are regulated by Consumer and Business Services (CBS) may be able to apply for the same type of licence in South Australia (SA).

Interstate licences **New Zealand licences** **Other overseas licences**

Companies - must apply for a new licence in SA.

Individuals - a number of interstate licences or registrations can be recognised in SA under mutual recognition.

You can't use mutual recognition if your licence or registration:

- is suspended
- has conditions due to criminal, civil or disciplinary proceedings, or if you are under investigation.

Step 5 – Select the “Apply for a restricted plumbing, gas fitting or electrical licence” option

Recognition of interstate and overseas work licences

Individual workers and contractors (not companies) who hold licences for occupations that are regulated by Consumer and Business Services (CBS) may be able to apply for the same type of licence in South Australia (SA).

Interstate licences **New Zealand licences** **Other overseas licences**

Licences from countries other than New Zealand are generally not recognised, but your overseas qualifications and experience could be assessed to help you get a licence in SA.

Plumbers, gas fitters and electricians

If further training is required to meet SA's licensing criteria, you can apply for a restricted plumbing, gas fitting or electrical licence.

With a restricted licence you can work under supervision. Once you complete further training you can apply to have the restriction removed.

Things to consider when applying for a restricted licence.

- You must apply for an Offshore Technical Skills Record (OTSR) which is an assessment of your overseas qualifications and experience. This will list any additional unit of competency that needs to be completed.
- Only certain approved Registered Training Organisations (RTO) can issue an OTSR. [Find an approved RTO](#) - Trades Recognition Australia.
- You must provide a copy of the OTSR certificate when applying for a restricted licence.

[Apply for a restricted plumbing, gas fitting or electrical licence](#)

Step 6 – This will take you to the application page and select “Start your Application” option

Online Application for Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Licence

START YOUR APPLICATION

! We recommend using Google Chrome, Apple Safari or Microsoft Edge internet browsers for an optimal user experience.

Step 7 – Complete each of the questions in the application as they relate to your circumstance, example as per below and then select **“Continue”**;

Do you hold a similar licence as an individual in another State or New Zealand, similar to that which you wish to apply for here?

(Please note companies cannot apply for mutual recognition of an interstate licence. They must complete an application for a new licence.)

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please select the application type:

☒ I am applying for a new licence.

☐ I am reapplying for a licence that expired or was surrendered within the last 12 months.

☐ I am wishing to upgrade an existing licence.

Do you wish to apply for a licence as an individual (or on behalf of another individual) or for a Body Corporate?

☒ Individual

☐ Body Corporate

Are you applying for worker registration only, contractor licence only or both?

☒ Worker registration only

☐ Contractor licence only

☐ Contractor licence and worker registration

CONTINUE

Step 8 – Select Occupation as **“Electrical”** and the **“Provisional”** option as per below and then tick the box for **“Overseas qualifications (TRA & VETASSESS certificates)”**.

Please select your:

1. Occupation (e.g. Electrical - Electrician)

2. Qualification (e.g. Certificate III - UEE30811)

3. Condition (e.g. Electrical Worker)

☒ Electrical

☐ Electrician

☐ Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Tradesperson

☐ Electrical Tradesperson (Distribution Overhead)

☐ Electrical Tradesperson (Power Cable)

☐ Electrical Tradesperson (Powerline)

☐ Electrical Tradesperson (Rail Traction)

☐ Linesman

☐ Instrumentation and Control Tradesperson

☐ National Restricted Electrical Licence (NREL) under supervision only

☐ National Restricted Electrical Licence (NREL)

☐ Domestic Disconnection/Reconnection under supervision only

☐ Domestic Disconnection/Reconnection

☒ Provisional

☐ Water Meters (for plumbers)

☐ Laboratory & Scientific equipment

☐ Plumbing

☐ Gas Fitting

Please enter your Provisional qualification:

☐ Overseas qualifications (TRA & VETASSESS certificates)

Step 9 – Select the “**Overseas qualifications (TRA & VETASSESS certificates)**” option, then select the option for the “**OTSR Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician**” and then the option for “**Electrical worker – Any electrical work under the supervision of a registered worker**” then select “**Next**”.

Please enter your Provisional qualification:

- ☒ Overseas qualifications (TRA & VETASSESS certificates)
 - ☐ Australian Recognised Trade Certificate, Tradesman’s Certificate or Certificate of Recognition issued by Trades Recognition Australia as an Engineering Tradesperson (Electrical/Electronic)
 - ☒ Off-shore Technical Skills Record (OTSR) issued by VETASSESS certifying that the holder has been assessed as having the required technical skills for a Certificate III - Electrotechnology Electrician (UEE30811).
 - ☐ Off-shore Technical Skills Record (OTSR) issued by VETASSESS certifying that the holder has been assessed as having the required technical skills for a UEE32211 or UEE32220 Certificate III in Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration.
 - ☐ Off-shore Technical Skills Record (OTSR) issued by VETASSESS certifying that the holder has been assessed as having the required technical skills for a Certificate in Engineering - Mechanical Trade (Refrigeration and Air Conditioning).

Electrical conditions you can apply for:

- ☒ Electrical worker - Any electrical work under the supervision of a registered worker

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NEXT

Step 10 – confirm details, select “**I have completed all of the above requirements**”, consider applicable fees with CBS and the select “**Proceed**”

You are applying as an Individual for:

- Electrical worker - Any electrical work under the supervision of a registered worker

Required qualifications:

Off-shore Technical Skills Record (OTSR) issued by VETASSESS certifying that the holder has been assessed as having the required technical skills for a Certificate III - Electrotechnology Electrician (UEE30811).

☐ I have completed all of the above requirements.

Application fee:	\$266.00
Pre-grant fee:	\$331.00
Total:	\$597.00

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Table 1: Contact details of regulators for the Australian Electrical Industry and licensing requirements

State/Territory	Licensing authority	Licence Information	Contact Details	Website
New South Wales	Building Commission NSW	Provisional Tradesperson Certificate	13 27 00	https://www.nsw.gov.au/business-and-economy/licences-and-credentials/building-and-trade-licences-and-registrations/apply/overseas-trained-applicants
Victoria	Energy Safe Victoria	Supervised Workers Licence	1800 815 721 licensing@energysafe.vic.gov.au	www.esv.vic.gov.au/licensing-coes/interstate-international-electrical-workers/overseas-qualifications/
Queensland	Electrical Safety Office	Electrical work training permit	1300 632 993 Licensing.ProcessingServices@oir.qld.gov.au	https://www.electricalsafety.qld.gov.au/
South Australia	Consumer and Business Service	Restricted Electrical Worker Registration	131 882 occupational@sa.gov.au	www.sa.gov.au/topics/business-and-trade/licensing/building-and-trades/licensing
Western Australia	Energy Safety Department of Commerce	Electrician's Provisional Licence	08 6251 2000 energylicensing@dmirs.wa.gov.au	www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications/electricians-licence-application-overseas-otsr
Tasmania	Building Standards and Occupational Licensing Department of Justice	Provisional Licence	1300 654 499 cbos.info@tas.gov.au	https://www.cbos.tas.gov.au/
Australian Capital Territory	ACT Environment and Sustainable Development	Unrestricted Permit Electrotechnology Systems	(02) 6207 8096 cwpl@act.gov.au	https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/
Northern Territory	Electrical Worker and Contractors Licensing Board	Permit to Work Under Supervision	08 8936 4079 Electrical.licensing@nt.gov.au	https://electricallicensing.nt.gov.au/

Further information can also be found here: <https://www.tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au/electrician-general-and-special-class>

STEP 2 - Find an employer

Once you have arrived in Australia you must find an employer.

On-the-job work performance is a critical component of 11297NAT (and electrical licencing).

You must be engaged (employed) as an electrical worker and be supervised by a qualified and unrestricted licenced electrician to verify your work.

An employer can be found via several ways:

- Check the jobs sections of local newspapers
- Check employment websites
- Contact your local Employer/Employee Association
- Centrelink Job search

Table 2 lists the contact details for Electrical Industry Employer and Employee representative associations.

Table 2: Contact details for Electrical Industry Employer/Employee Associations

State/Territory	Employer Associations		Employee Associations	
	National Electrical Contracting Association (NECA)		Electrical Trades Union (ETU)	
	Phone	Website	Phone	Email
ACT	02 6280 5580	act@neca.asn.au	02 6163 6666	etucanberra@etunsw.asn.au
NSW	02 9744 1099	necansw@neca.asn.au	02 9267 4844 (Sydney) 02 4968 2488 (Newcastle) 02 4229 8711 (Wollongong) 0416 060 955 (Far North Coast)	etunsw@etunsw.asn.au (Sydney) etunewcastle@etunsw.asn.au (Newcastle) etuwollongong@etunsw.asn.au (Wollongong) geoffp@etunsw.asn.au (Far North Coast)
NT	Contact NECA SA		08 8941 2300	darwin@etu.org.au
QLD	07 3276 7950	necaq@neca.asn.au	07 3846 2477 (Brisbane) 07 4972 6676 (Central QLD) 07 4953 4799 (Mackay) 07 3010 0370 (North QLD) 07 5532 6903 (Gold Coast) 07 4638 9313 (Toowoomba) 07 5341 8927 (Sunshine Coast) 07 4051 3472 (Cairns)	info@etu.org.au gladstone@etu.org.au mackay@etu.org.au townsville@etu.org.au goldcoast@etu.org.au Toowoomba@etu.org.au sscoast@etu.org.au cairns@etu.org.au
SA	08 8272 2966	neca@necasa.asn.au	08 8234 2130	cepused@bigpond.com
TAS	03 6245 0770	necatas@neca.com.au	03 6228 0098	info@ceputas.com.au
VIC	03 9645 5533	necavic@neca.asn.au	03 8329 0000	etu.members@etuvic.com.au
WA	08 6241 6100	necawa@necawa.asn.au	08 9440 3522	info@etuwa.com.au
	Master Electricians Australia (MEA)			
NATIONAL	1300 889 198	info@masterelectricians.com.au		

STEP 3 - Enrol at an RTO/TAFE SA

Visit the [TAFE SA Website](#) to apply to undertake the 11297NAT - Course in Electrician – Minimum Australian Context Gap

Entry Requirement(s) – to be eligible for the 11297NAT you will be asked to provide evidence of the following:

- OTSR or ATCS evidence
- provisional/restricted licence from relevant licensing authority. In South Australia this can be obtained via Consumer and Business Services (CBS).
- A certificate of currency (within last 12 months) for First Aid for the unit HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation and UETDRRF004 Perform rescue from a live LV panel.

TAFE SA will need to view and verify the OTSR and/or ATCS as evidence of your prior learning contributing to the Certificate III qualification.

TAFE SA is licenced to deliver and assess 11297NAT in accordance with the accredited course requirements, including on-the-job work performance.

Although not an entry requirement, candidates are **strongly** advised and encouraged to find an employer as soon as possible, so they can commence the on-the-job component of 11297NAT. You will not be able to complete 11297NAT until you have achieved sufficient on-the-job work experience (covered in more details in a later section).

Course fees are applicable and these are advertised on the TAFE SA website.

A list of RTOs that are licensed to deliver 11297NAT are detailed on the Skilled Migration Page under the 'Services Tab' refer: <https://energyskillsaustralia.com.au/services/skilled-migration/> and on the Australian Government website (www.training.gov.au)

If there is not a gap training RTO in your jurisdiction, please make contact with another gap training RTO. As part of their license agreements, they are required and expected to offer flexible delivery arrangements and options to allow candidates to access the course from other states/territories.

STEP 4 - Gap Training Course

TAFE SA will deliver the course and collect evidence of your on-the-job experience with an employer via the Exemplar Profiling system.

11297NAT will cover:

- a) Required skills and knowledge for Australian standards
- b) Completing the work experience/performance requirements
- c) A final compliance assessment

a) Required skills and knowledge

Delivery through TAFE SA includes:

- Applying Australian Work Health and Safety practices in the electrical workplace
- Documenting and applying control measures for Australian electrical workplace hazards and risks
- Applying Australian standards and requirements to solve LV a.c. circuits/systems problems
- Selecting protection devices and systems for low voltage circuits and apparatus
- Selecting wiring systems and cables for low voltage electrical installations
- Verifying compliance, functionality and aspects critical to the safety of electrical installations
- Selected elective units

b) Work experience/performance

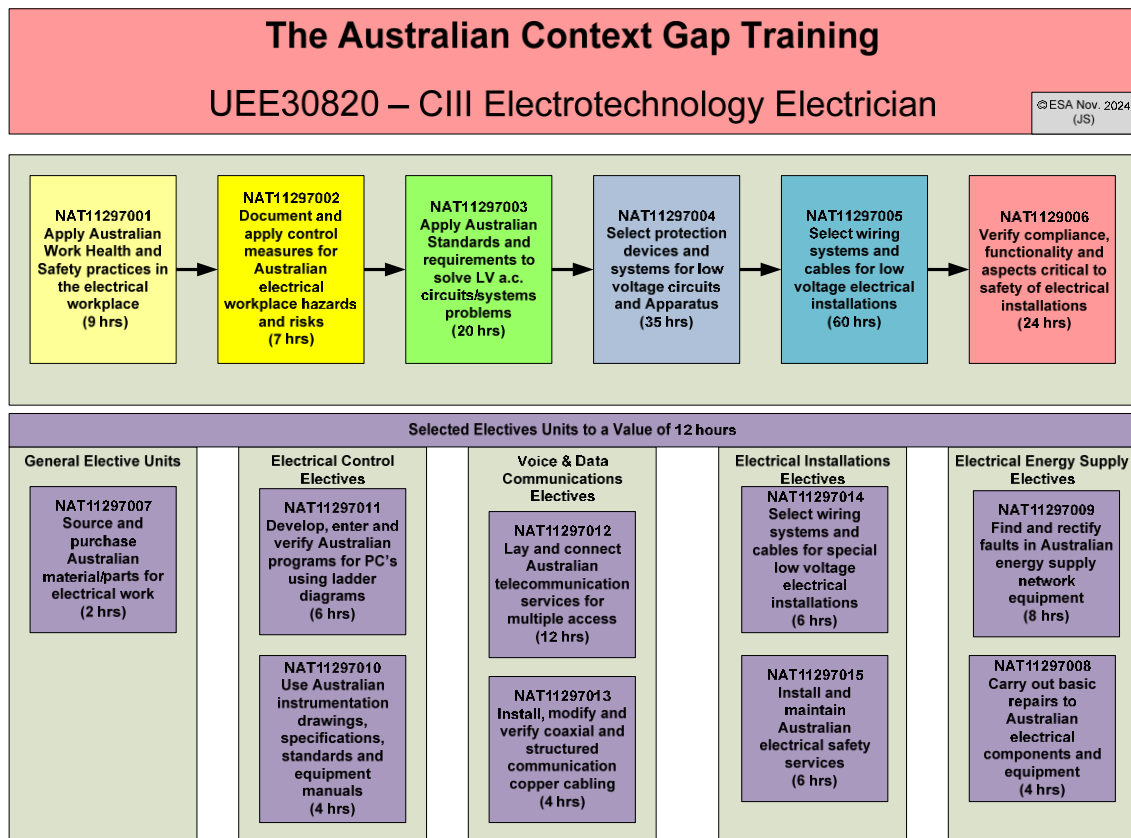
To be undertaken, holding a 'provisional licence' with an employer in the workplace, with appropriate supervision and recorded in Exemplar Profiling. Aspects to be addressed include:

- Fault finding electrical circuits and systems
- Installation and termination of low voltage cables and cable support/protection
- Installation of low voltage apparatus
- Testing low voltage apparatus and circuits
- Applying electrical safe work practices
- Electrical hazards Identification
- Applying WHS/OHS practices including the use of PPE, safety equipment and Material Safety Data Sheets
- Applying safe isolation and lockout procedures
- Demonstrating sustainability principles in the workplace
- Monitor energy usage

- Working safely at heights using ladders, scaffolds, Elevated Work Platforms

c) Final Compliance Assessment

- Undertaking a final compliance assessment in accordance with the relevant regulatory and industry policy to cover: Verification of the safety and compliance of low voltage electrical installation wiring and equipment, including the relevant and mandatory tests in Australia and in accordance with the relevant requirements of the jurisdiction.
- Meeting the **critical** essential performance capabilities (EPCs) for an unrestricted electrical licence



STEP 5 - Workplace Evidence

Australian regulators require evidence that broad experience has been gained on-the-job and require this evidence to be formally gathered and documented. The industry endorsed method of gathering this evidence is the Exemplar Profiling system.

Exemplar Profiling is an innovative electronic workplace skill development tracking system that records and reports on the work experiences of the learner. Exemplar Profiling works by regularly measuring the progress of a learner; verified by their supervisor, against industry agreed predetermined advisory targets or benchmarks directly linked to national competency standard units.

Practical experience is a mixture of both time and workplace exposure. Industry and regulators have determined advisory targets or benchmarks are required to be met to satisfy the requirements of the accredited course, these advisory targets are set around a **nominal 12 month (full-time) period**.

Your work performance must be verified by your supervisor who must be a qualified Electrician and holds an unrestricted electrical licence.

Gap training RTOs are responsible for ensuring that the requirements of the course have been met before issuing the 11297NAT course (Statement of Attainment) or related Certificate III qualification.

To register yourself and your employer (if they don't already have an account) on the Exemplar Profiling system please speak to someone from your gap training RTO in the first instance or contact Exemplar Profiling on 02 6100 2147, info@exemplarsystems.com.au or chat accessed via: <https://profiling.exemplarsystems.com.au/auth/login> to register or for more information.

Once you have registered, you will be issued a set of Exemplar Profiling login details and password to allow you to record the details of your work experiences online on a weekly basis.

Workplace evidence gathering can only commence from the start date of the OTSR/ATCS holder's provisional licence.

NOTE: *You do not have to wait until you are enrolled in the 11297NAT course to start gathering your workplace evidence. OTSR holders can register with Exemplar Profiling and commence gathering workplace evidence once you have a provisional licence and employer. Your RTO can be linked to your account later once you are enrolled in 11297NAT by informing your RTO or Exemplar Profiling.*

STEP 6 - Meeting the Full Qualification and Licence Requirements

Once you have successfully completed steps 1 to 5, TAFE SA will issue you a Statement of Attainment for the gap course and apply credit for the issuances of the Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician (UEE30820) or successor.

All states and territories require Electricians to be licensed or registered. When applying for your unrestricted electrical licence you are advised to include the following information as part of your application:

- OTSR/ATCS;
- Statement of Attainment;
- Certificate III qualification;
- Provisional Licence; and
- Exemplar Profiling report.

NOTE: *Some state/territory regulators may impose additional requirements at their discretion. Please check with the regulatory authority in your state/territory you are applying to confirm any additional requirements.*

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Useful Contacts:

If you experience any difficulties undertaking any of the above steps, please contact the following organisations for assistance:

Energy Skills Australia:

Ph: 02 6100 2147

Email: office@energyskillsaustralia.com.au

Website:

www.energyskillsaustralia.com.au

Trades Recognition Australia:

Ph: 1300 360 992 (within Australia only)

International: +61 2 6240 8778

Email: traenquiries@dewr.gov.au

Website:

- www.tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au
- <http://www.tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au/Programs/Pages/default.aspx>

Exemplar Profiling:

Ph: 02 6100 2147

Email: info@exemplarservices.com.au

Login Site:

<https://profiling.exemplarsystems.com.au/auth/login>

Website: <https://exemplarservices.com.au/>