

# Licensing - information for asbestos removal licence applicants >

**The purpose of this information bulletin is to explain the requirements that applicants must meet when applying for an asbestos removal licence.**

## **Work covered by licence**

An asbestos removal licence in the Northern Territory covers the following:

- the removal of thermal or acoustic insulation materials which contain asbestos;
- the removal of asbestos cement products or other asbestos containing materials; and
- the removal of decorative materials which consists of or contain asbestos.

## **When a licence is not required**

An asbestos removal licence is not required for the following:

- the removal of asbestos - cement product or other material containing asbestos in which the asbestos fibres are bonded by cement, vinyl, resin or other similar material that covers less than 10 square metres;
- the removal of a sample of material for the purposes of identifying the material.
- Note: Even when a licence is not required, work must still be carried out by suitably competent personnel and in strict accordance with the WorkSafe Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos.

## **Scope of licence**

An asbestos removal licence in the Northern Territory is issued to an individual person and not to a company. This means that any work that is undertaken under the ambit of the licence will be the sole responsibility of the licence holder.

An asbestos removal licence enables the licence holder to legally remove asbestos containing materials as listed in 1, 2 and 3 above, however a restriction may be placed on the licence for asbestos cement products only, if required.

The coding that is required on the licence application is as follows for the two types of removal categories:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Description</b>
1700	Asbestos Removal - All
1750	Asbestos Removal - restricted to asbestos cement products only

## **Licence application**

A person can apply to NT WorkSafe for an asbestos removal licence. The protocol for an application is for the applicant to be interviewed by an authorised person from NT WorkSafe. This interview will determine whether the applicant should proceed with a formal application based on their experience and knowledge of asbestos removal.

Note: the initial interview will consist of a verbal test of the applicant's knowledge of the WorkSafe Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos.

Once the applicant has been deemed suitable to apply ie; on face value appears to have had suitable knowledge and experience a formal application can then be made and should include the following:

- Application form;
- Asbestos removal work procedures manual (which can consist of a log of major projects completed by the applicant, outlining all work procedures used);
- A completed asbestos removal work training manual; that outlines the training methods to be used for all workers likely to be involved;
- Details of any interstate licences;
- Curriculum vitae of the applicant outlining, in detail, experience and qualifications relating to asbestos removal work;
- Details of any formal training or education received in asbestos removal in accordance with the WorkSafe Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos;
- A detailed list of all the equipment owned by, or accessible to the applicant that will be used during asbestos removal work;
- Any other relevant information that may be applicable to the licence; and
- Applicant should have a personal copy of the WorkSafe Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos and be able to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the same.

## **Assessment of the application**

The application will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- The asbestos removal work procedures manual will be reviewed based on the WorkSafe Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos.
- The asbestos removal work training manual will need to outline all the training methods that will be employed by the applicant to ensure that all workers are adequately instructed and trained in the safe removal of asbestos. This will include safe use and care of personal protective equipment, (training is to be carried out by a suitably competent person).
- All equipment used for any removal work will need to be of an approved type suitable for asbestos work and the applicant will need to demonstrate how, when and where the equipment will be used.

- Demonstrated practical experience in asbestos removal work. Examples of work should be given and referees nominated who can verify that the work was in fact done by the applicant.

A licence will be issued by NT WorkSafe if the applicant can satisfactorily comply with the items mentioned above. The licence will be issued for a 3 year period and may be renewed at the end of that period if the applicant can demonstrate that all work carried out during the previous term was in strict accordance with the Worksafe Code of Practice for the safe removal of asbestos.

### **Conditions of licence**

Once a licence has been issued an approved asbestos removalist has an obligation to notify NT WorkSafe of any impending removal work 7 days prior to start of work (Form 019 – notification of work). The notification must include, but is not limited to, the following:

- all work procedures used from the start to the finish, including air monitoring;
- details of any barricading and signage;
- disposal procedures for contaminated waste;
- decontamination facilities;
- personal protective equipment (and training associated with the safe use thereof); and
- any other details relating to the safety of operators and others on or near the site.

### **NT WorkSafe >**

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