

Definition of “May”

As set out in the gazette notice

- (2) The Board may require an applicant for a certificate of competence listed in paragraph (4) to satisfy a panel of examiners, approved by the Board by way of oral examination or other examination or both, that he or she has satisfactory knowledge of good mining practice in the subject areas covered by the requirements set for the relevant certificate of competence

- (4) Paragraph (2) applies to the following certificate of competence:
 - a. B-grade opencast coal mine manager
 - b. B-grade quarry manager;
 - c. B-grade tunnel manager.

The Board of Examiners has defined the word “May” as it will examine all new applications for a B-grade certificate of competence.

Moving from an A-grade certificate of competence to a B-grade certificate of competence.

Under regulations 28 it states the applicant for a certificate of competence must –

- (a) Have the qualifications and experience prescribed under regulations 34 for a holder of that certificate of competence; and
- (b) Be a fit and proper person to hold that certificate of competence.

The Board of Examiners has defined regulation 28 (a) in the New Zealand Gazette notice dated 18 December 2014 – Notice of Requirements for Granting of Certificate of competence Under the Health and Safety in Employment (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations) regulations 2013.

Under the regulations all new certificates must comply with the requirements set out in the gazette notice.

The Board has determined that for a new certificate to be issued, the applicant must:

- Have the required unit standards set out in Appendix 1
- Be a fit and proper person
- Supply a log book of experience required as outlined in the gazette notice.
- The Board will require all CoC holders to be examined by way of oral examination.

If an applicant is a lifetime certificate holder MITO would be able to credit them with the unit standards that were gazetted in 2002* for this type of certificate using Recognition of Prior Learning based on the “approved assessment” or exam they passed to get the COC. Applicants would need to fill in the application form that is available from national.assessor@mito.org.nz, then send this plus a copy of their lifetime certificate to national.assessor@mito.org.nz. There is a fee that MITO would charge for this. Applicants will still be required to complete any unit standards which are noted in the Appendix 1 of the gazette notice that were not included in the 2002 gazette notice or not able to be credited using Recognition of Prior Learning.

*Where the unit standard has expired and has been replaced with a new number (not just new version of the same number) MITO is unable to credit an applicant with the expired one or the replacement, because the fact that the unit standard has a new number means that the unit standards were placed into category C at the time of the review, meaning “Significant changes were made to the unit standard that materially changed the outcomes being recognised. In addition, Recognition of Prior Learning assessment is not available for unit standard 7142 as it is important that the COC holder is up to date with current legislation.

Another option for gaining unit standards is recognition of current competency (RCC) which is a process where current (within the past 5 years) skill and knowledge is evaluated and unit standards can be awarded based on this rather than the candidate having to actually demonstrate skill and knowledge by a formal assessment.