

Pathways to ACMA Cabling Provider Rules Cabler Registration

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Contents

02 01 Introduction

03 Use of this document

04 02 Criteria for cabling experience

05 Open Registration

05 Endorsements

07 03 Pathways charts

08 Explanation and list of charts

08 Explanation and list of charts

09 Chart 1: Summary of Open Registration pathways using ICT02, UTE99 and UEE07
NUE190

10 Chart 2: Competency-based pathways – Open Registration

11 Chart 3: Module-based pathway for qualified electricians and experienced cablers* – Open Registration

12 Chart 4: Module-based pathway for ordinary people – Open Registration

13 Chart 5: Summary of Restricted Registration pathways

14 Chart 5A: Summary of Lift Registration pathways

15 Chart 6: Competency-based pathways – Restricted Registration

16 Chart 7: Module-based pathway for qualified electricians and experienced cablers* – Restricted
Registration ICT02, UTE99 and UEE07

17 Chart 8: Module-based training pathway for ordinary people
– Restricted Registration ICT02 and UTE99

18 Chart 9: Electrotechnology Training Package (UEE07)
Pathways to ACMA Cabling Provider Rules Cabler Registration

19 Chart 10: Endorsements for Open CPR qualified cablers

20 Chart 11: Digital Reception Technology

21 04 Methodology for developing pathways

22 Development process

23 05 Open, restricted and lift cabling work

24 Open cabling work

24 Restricted cabling work

25 Lift cabling work

26 06 Cabling provider rules

28 07 Contact details – TITAB, EE-OZ, ACMA & IBSA

01

Introduction

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and key communications/telecommunications industry stakeholders originally developed this document in 2004, and updated it in 2007 and 2009 to consolidate the training pathways to ACMA Cabling Provider Rules (CPR) registration.

In the cabler training and registration sector, there needs to be clarity about the programs available for training cablers and which programs apply to which types of candidates. The pathways in this document bring together existing programs in a cohesive framework of training that optimises access to training and registration for all types of candidates.

Two types of training are available, module-based and competency-based. Competency-based is recommended as the most appropriate; however, some cablers prefer the module-based option.

Use of this document

This document is intended to be the primary information source for registered training organisations (RTOs), registrar organisations and cabler assessors.

The recommended strategy for using this document with individual candidates is:

- > **Identify the characteristics of the candidate**—their experience, prior learning and desired outcomes
- > **Assess the candidate's experience** using the criteria supplied in the section Criteria for cabling experience in Section 2
- > **Select a pathway** which suits the candidate characteristics using the charts in Section 3
- > **Refer to the detailed charts** to obtain information about the specific modules or competency units to be undertaken.

The charts can also be used by RTOs in determining which programs they will offer and the specific details of those programs.

It should be noted that regardless of any policies in the Vocational Education & Training (VET) sector, or, industry at large, favouring “competencies”, module-based programs are still recognised by the Telecommunications Regulator ACMA (Australian Communications & Media Authority).

02

Criteria for cabling experience

Candidates for registration through the **module based pathways require experience** in cabling as well as the successful completion of the required modules. The lists of criteria outlined below are to be used by RTOs in assessing a candidate's experience.

Candidates qualifying under the competency standard requirements do not need to meet the "6 months test" as they are actually **assessed for competency**, and would be highly unlikely to pass a formal competency assessment without adequate experience.

Open Registration

Where cablers require experience to progress to open cabler registration the following criteria can be used to define cabling experience.

The experience of the candidate should meet **the first three criteria in all cases and four of the other criteria** listed.

- > Experience comprises at least 600 hours of work on cabling tasks within the last two years
- > Cabling experience was supervised by a registered cabler
- > Cabling work undertaken is covered by one or more Australian Technical Standards, e.g. AS/ACIF S008:2006 and AS/ACIF S009:2006

-
- > Installation of distributor systems involving a capacity of at least 20 lines
 - > Installation of telecommunications earthing protection
 - > Creation and interpretation of cable plans
 - > Assistance in cable testing and fault rectification
 - > Preparation of telecommunications cabling advice (TCA) reports for customers*
 - > Interaction with customers

Evidence of experience: This should be provided to an RTO, or a registrar on request, by a registered cabler who has supervised the candidate. To do this, photocopy this page, add the name of the candidate and tick the criteria they have met. Then sign off giving current CPR registration number.

State and Territory criteria for experience: Where state/territory school-based programs operate, these are usually undertaken on the basis of qualifications within a competency based system. State/territory training authorities may apply their own experience criteria to such programs whether module or competency based, before issuing any formal credentials.

The experience criteria for AQTF purposes **may differ** from ACMA criteria.

Endorsements

When the ACMA Base Cabling Licence and endorsement system was replaced by CPR in 2000, mandatory endorsements for fibre, co-axial, structured cabling, underground and aerial work became voluntary. Since then, although not mandated by ACMA, they are still required by industry for many installations.

* Note: TCA1 forms are mandatory, while TCA2 forms are advisory. Refer to the ACMA website www.acma.gov.au

Restricted Registration

Where cablers require experience to progress to restricted cabler registration the following criteria can be used to clarify the definition of cabling experience.

The experience of the candidate should meet the first three criteria in all cases and two of the other criteria listed.

- > Experience comprises at least 400 hours of work on cabling tasks within the last two years
- > Cabling experience was supervised by a registered cabler
- > Cabling work undertaken is covered by one or more Australian Technical Standards, e.g. AS/ACIF S008:2006 and AS/ACIF S009:2006

-
- > Creation and interpretation of cable plans
 - > Assistance in cable testing and fault rectification
 - > Preparation of TCA reports for customers
 - > Interaction with customers

Evidence of experience: This should be provided to an RTO, or a registrar on request, by a registered cabler who has supervised the candidate. To do this, the registered cabler should photocopy this page, add the name of the candidate and tick the criteria he or she has met. The cabler should sign off the page and provide the current CPR registration number.

State and Territory criteria for experience:

Where state/territory school-based programs operate, these are usually undertaken on the basis of qualifications within a competency based system. State/territory training authorities may apply their own experience criteria to such programs, whether module or competency based, before issuing any formal credentials.

The experience criteria for AQTF purposes **may differ** from ACMA criteria.

Lift registration

As Lift registration for ACMA CPR purposes is an “add-on” to an “electrical” qualification and with training programs usually run by specialist RTOs with elevator industry involvement, experience criteria is evaluated by the RTO. The Telecommunications Training Package contains the benchmark criteria for the telecommunications component in Lifts and the Electrotechnology Training Package covers all the non-telecommunications requirements.

03

Pathways charts

Explanation and list of charts

There are multiple pathways to cabler registration. These pathways arise from the telecommunications and the electrotechnology training packages and agreements between stakeholders.

Charts 1 and 5 provide an overview of the collective pathways to Open and Restricted Registration. The other charts provide more detailed information about specific pathways. Guidance for RTOs when assessing a candidate's prior cabling experience is provided under **Criteria for cabling experience** in Section 2.

Chart 1: Summary of Open Registration pathways (ICT02, UTE99 and UEE07)

Chart 2: Competency-based pathways – Open Registration

Chart 3: Module-based pathway for qualified electricians and experienced cablers – Open Registration

Chart 4: Module-based pathway to Open Registration for ordinary people – Open Registration

Chart 5: Summary of Restricted Registration pathways

Chart 5A: Summary of Lift Registration pathways

Chart 6: Competency-based pathways – Restricted Registration

Chart 7: Module-based pathway for qualified electricians and experienced cablers – Restricted Registration

Chart 8: Module-based training pathway to Restricted Registration for ordinary people

Chart 9: Electrotechnology Training Package (UEE07) Pathways to ACMA Cabling Provider Rules Cabler Registration

Chart 10: Endorsements for Open CPR qualified cablers

Chart 11: Digital Reception Technology

Explanation and list of charts

This paper is based on national modules and training package learner resource numbering. However, some states and territories may be continuing with earlier versions of packages and modules, or, learner resources.

The Electrotechnology learner resources numbering in particular may vary between states and territories depending on the training package version authorised by the State Training Authorities.

Chart 1: Summary of Open Registration pathways using ICT02, UTE99 and UEE07

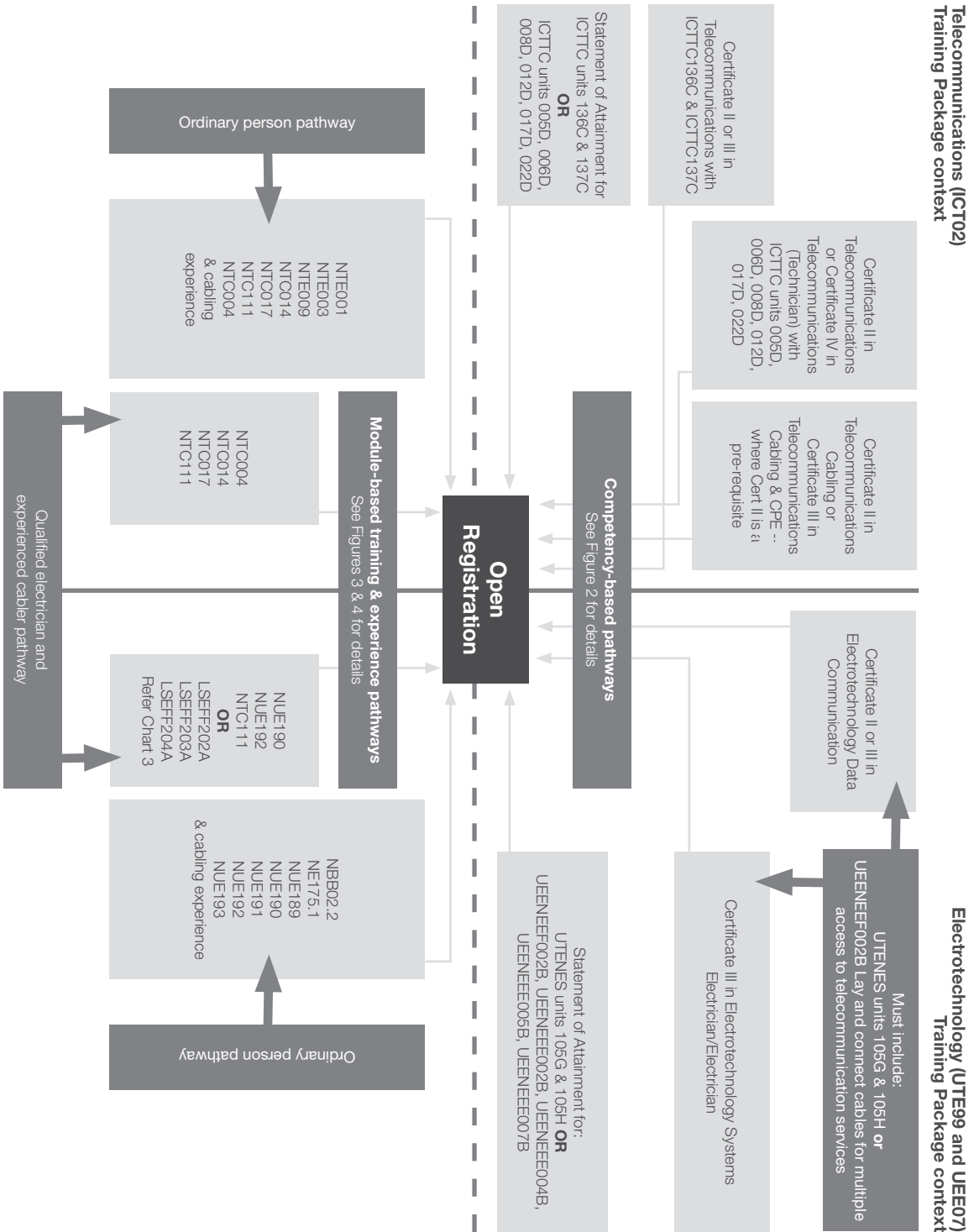
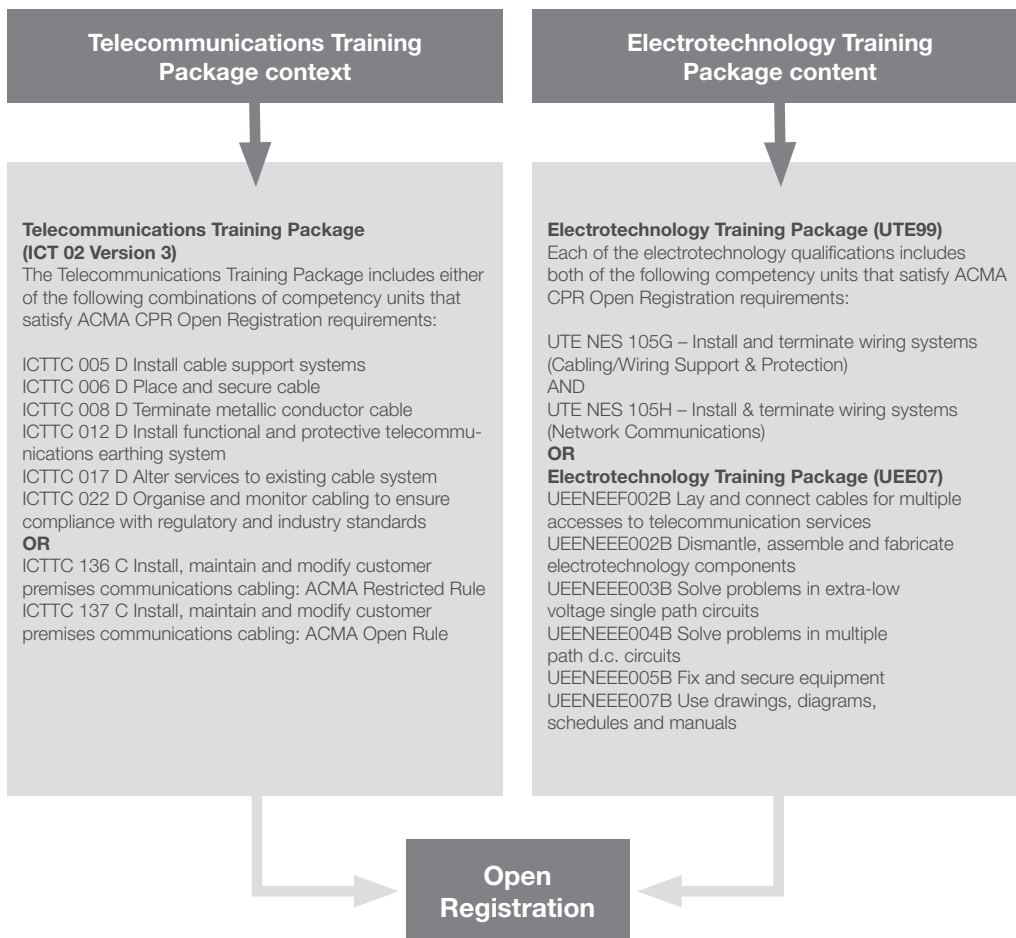


Chart 2: Competency-based pathways – Open Registration

These pathways apply to any person **who does not meet the criteria for a licensed electrician or experienced cabler**. As these persons are assessed against national competencies and deemed competent, there may be no requirement for formal on the job experience.

UTE99 is now superseded by UTE07, however, registrars can accept earlier qualifications and can do so for the foreseeable future.

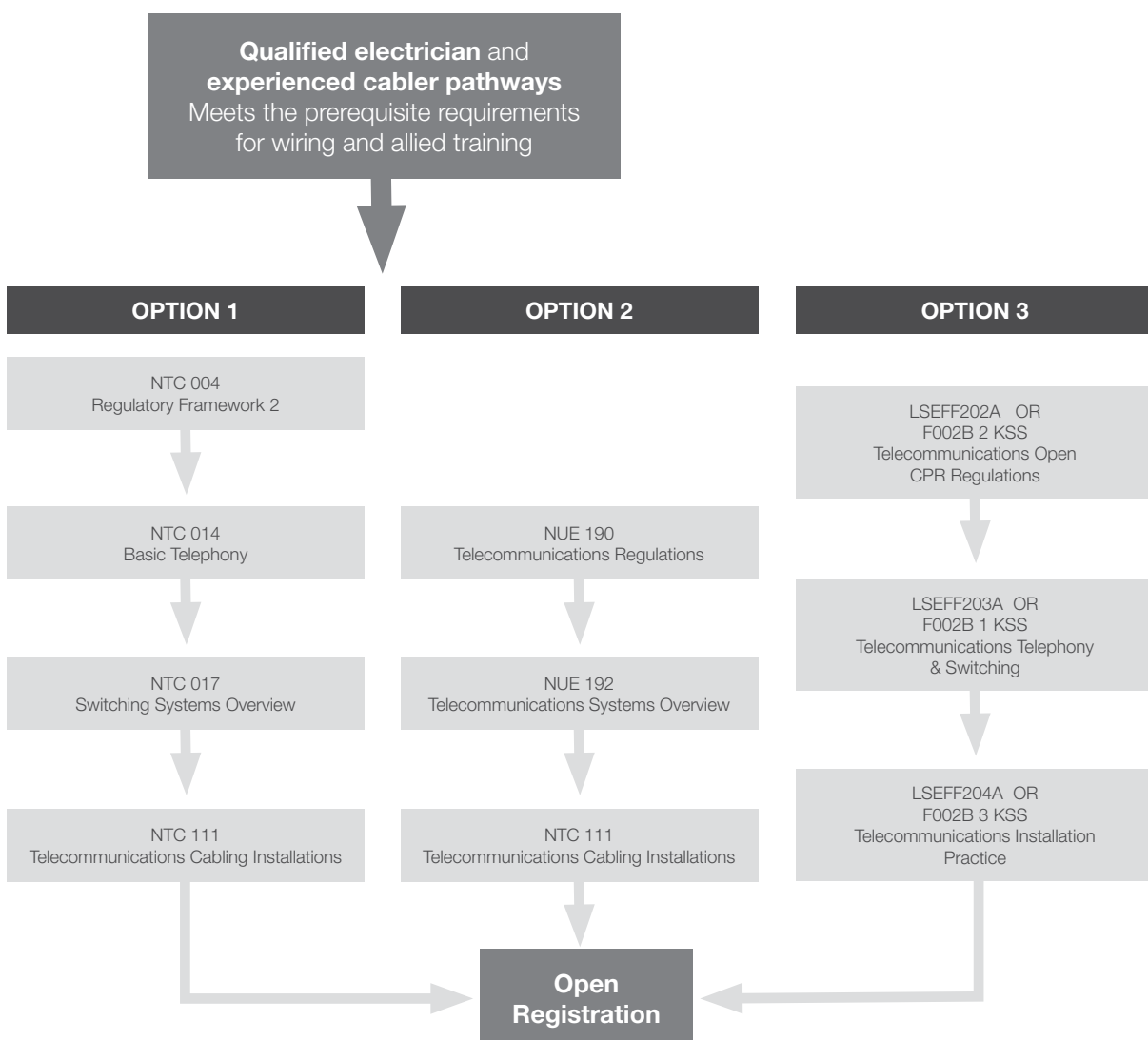


School based programs experience: Where school based programs operate under state/territory jurisdiction, there may be ‘work experience’ requirements applied to students before formal awards are given. Notwithstanding, work practice in cable installation must be demonstrated.

Chart 3: Module-based pathway for qualified electricians and experienced cablers* – Open Registration

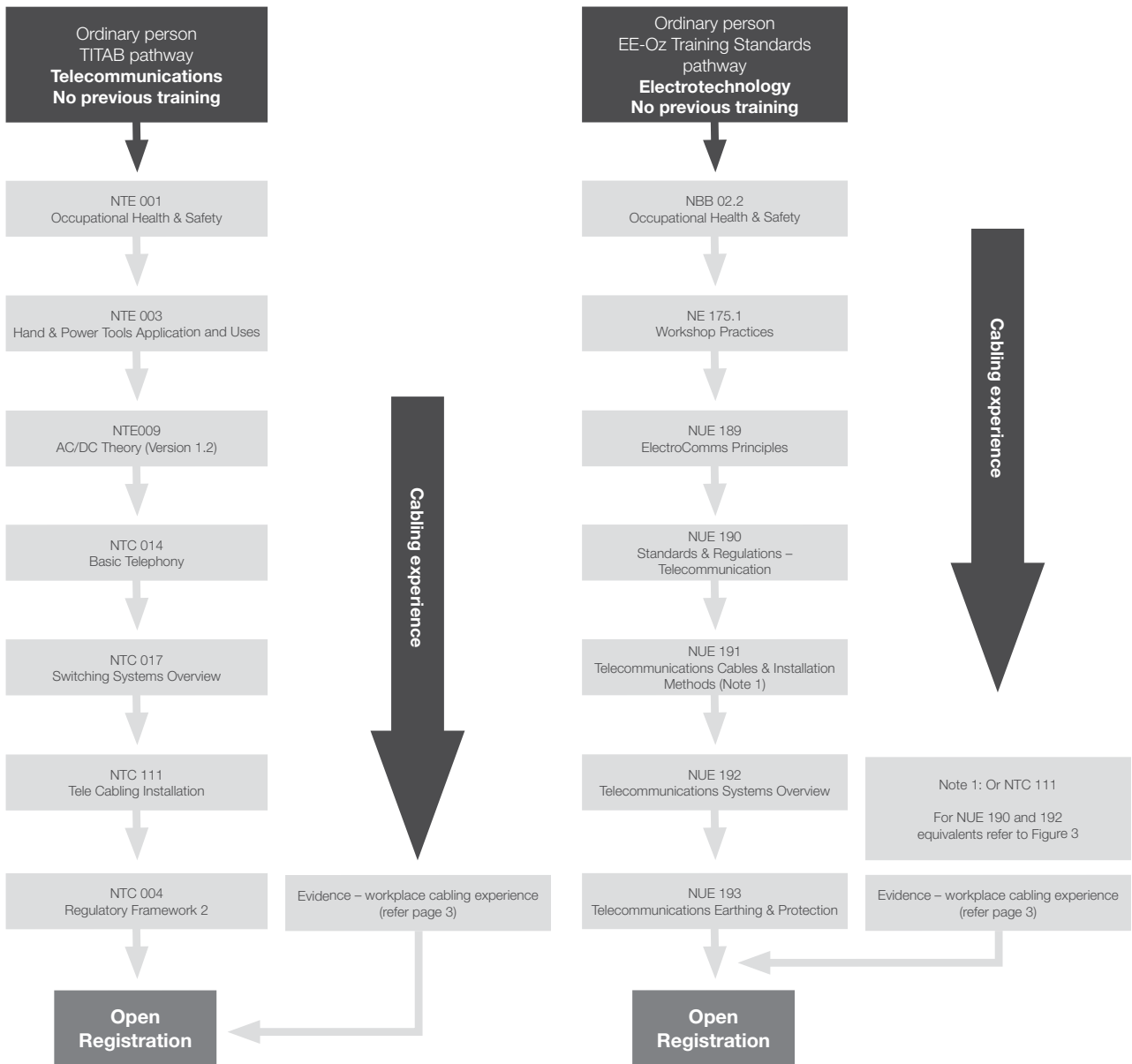
No fast track for ‘Regulatory’ modules: There is no fast track option for NTC004 / NTE005/NUE190. An 80 per cent pass mark using the prescribed ACMA subject guides in the module is required per test. Any retest must be again set against the full subject guides. For experienced cablers and qualified electricians, the RTO has the responsibility to ensure the prerequisite requirements are met for these pathways by sighting and recording evidence of credits, completed qualification or assessing and providing a Statement of Attainment.

Equivalent Module Use: This paper is based on national modules and training package learner resource numbering. However, some states and territories may be continuing with earlier versions of packages and modules, or, learner resources.



* Experienced cablers are technically trained staff from telecommunications, fire, security, data and computer cabling companies and statutory authorities who can be credited with completion of modules NTE001, NTE003, NTE009 (or their equivalents) using their formal RTO or employer training records.

Chart 4: Module-based pathway for ordinary people – Open Registration



Note 1: Or NTC 111

For NUE 190 and 192
equivalents refer to Figure 3

Chart 5: Summary of Restricted Registration pathways

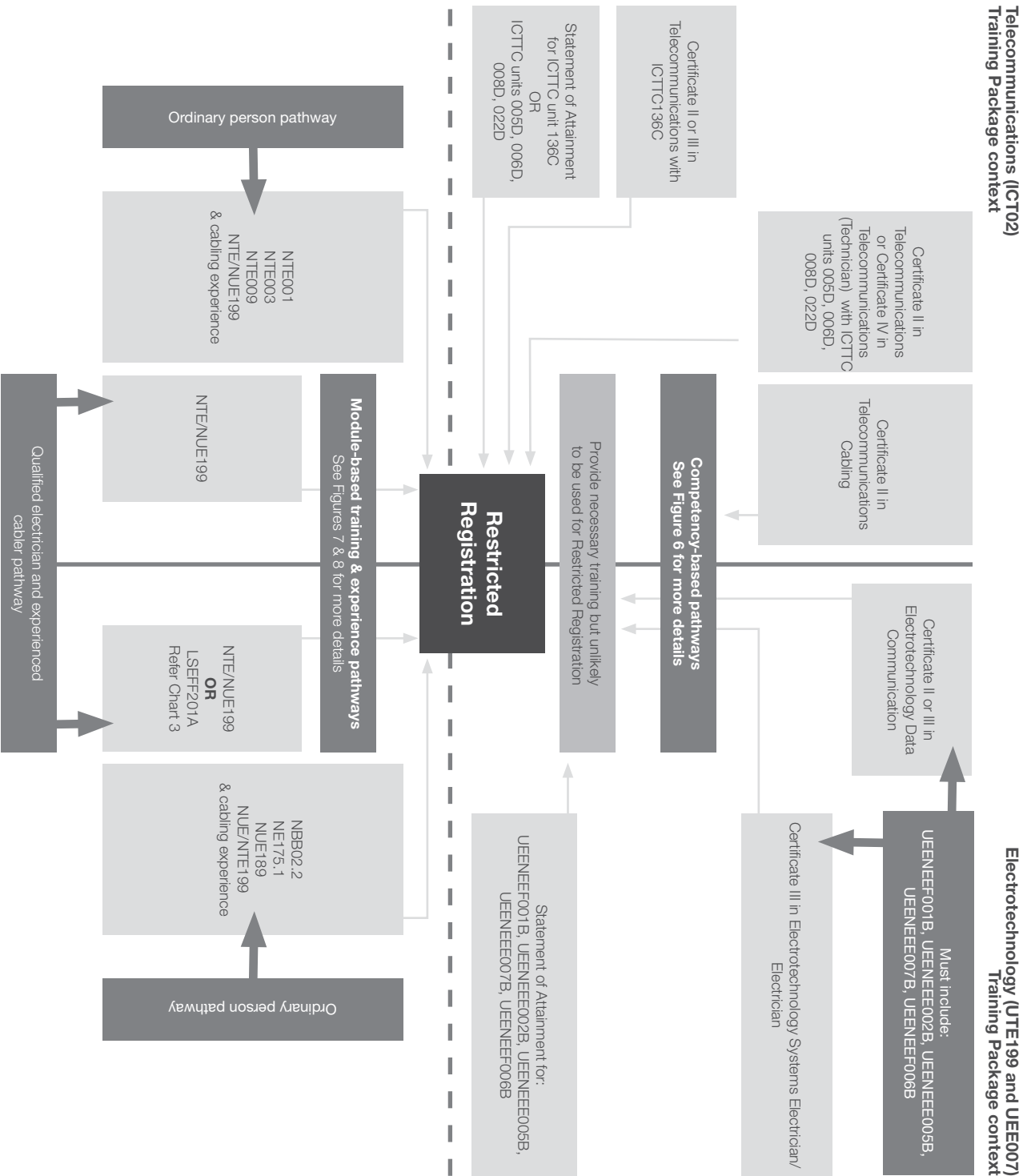


Chart 5A: Summary of Lift Registration pathways

Lift registration for ACMA CPR purposes is an “add-on” to an “electrical” qualification with training programs usually run by specialist RTOs with elevator industry involvement. The Telecommunications Training Package contains the benchmark criteria for the telecommunications component in Lifts and the Electrotechnology Training Package covers all the non-telecommunications requirements

Telecommunications Training Package context

Lift Telecom Cert. with ICTTC138B*

Electrotechnology Training Package context

UEENEEF003B Install and maintain cabling for telecommunication services in lifts

Lift Registration

*e.g. RMIT Lift Training Program

Chart 6: Competency-based pathways – Restricted Registration

The telecommunications pathway is open to people from all disciplines who want to meet the ACMA CPR Restricted Registration requirements.

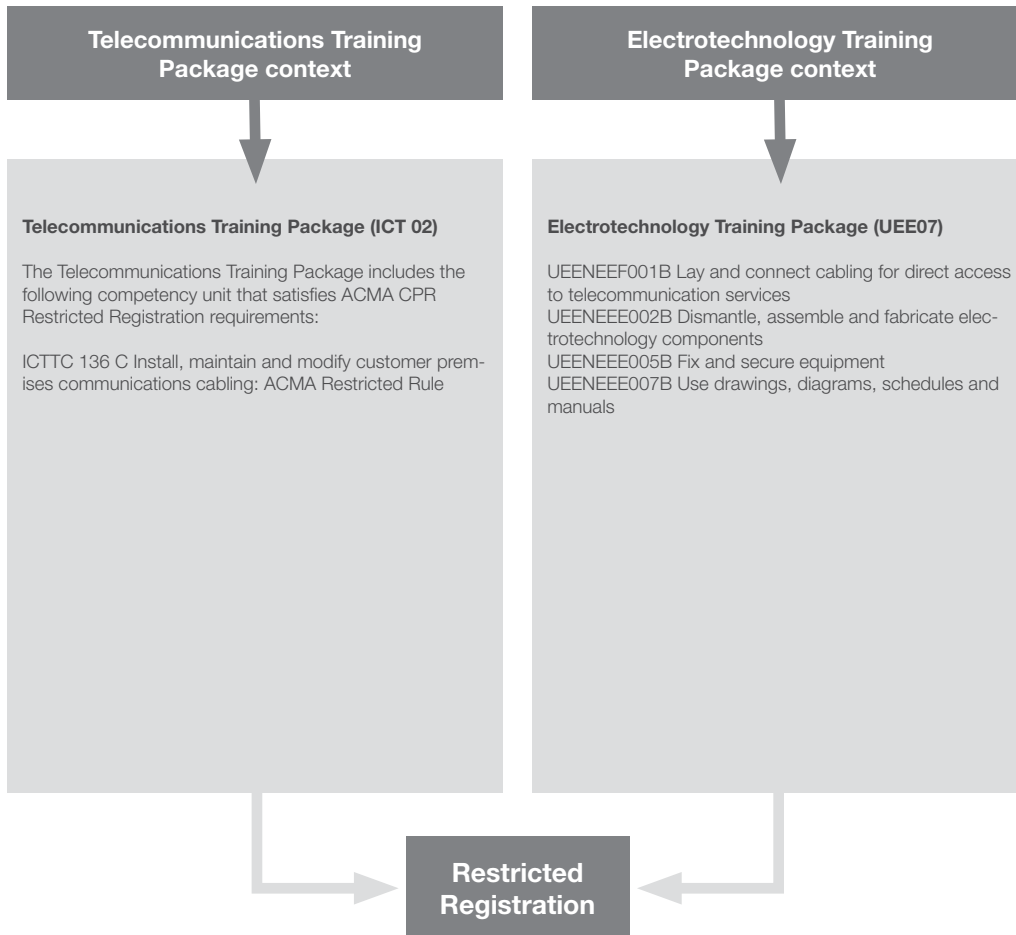
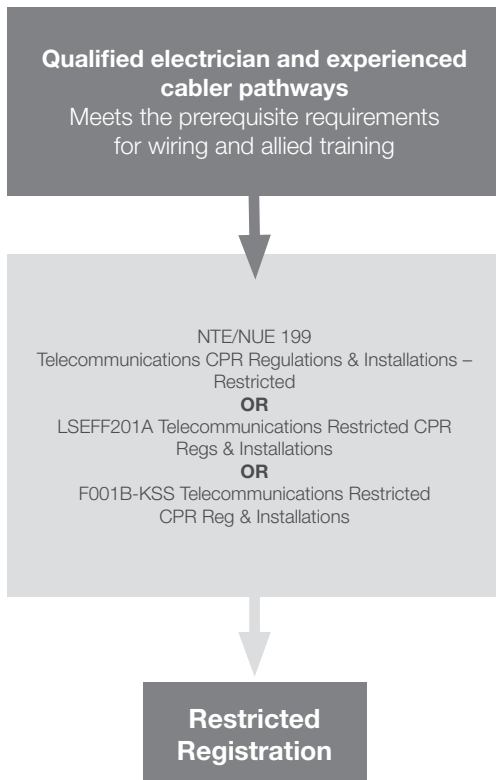


Chart 7: Module-based pathway for qualified electricians and experienced cablers* – Restricted Registration ICT02, UTE99 and UEE07

For experienced cablers and qualified electricians, the RTO has the responsibility to ensure the pre-requisite requirements are met for these pathways by sighting and recording evidence of credits, completed qualification or assessing and providing a Statement of Attainment.



* Experienced cablers are technically trained staff from telecommunications, fire, security, data and computer cabling companies and statutory authorities who can be credited with completion of modules NTE001, NTE003, NTE009 (or their equivalents) using their formal RTO or employer training records.

**Chart 8: Module-based training pathway for ordinary people
– Restricted Registration ICT02 and UTE99**

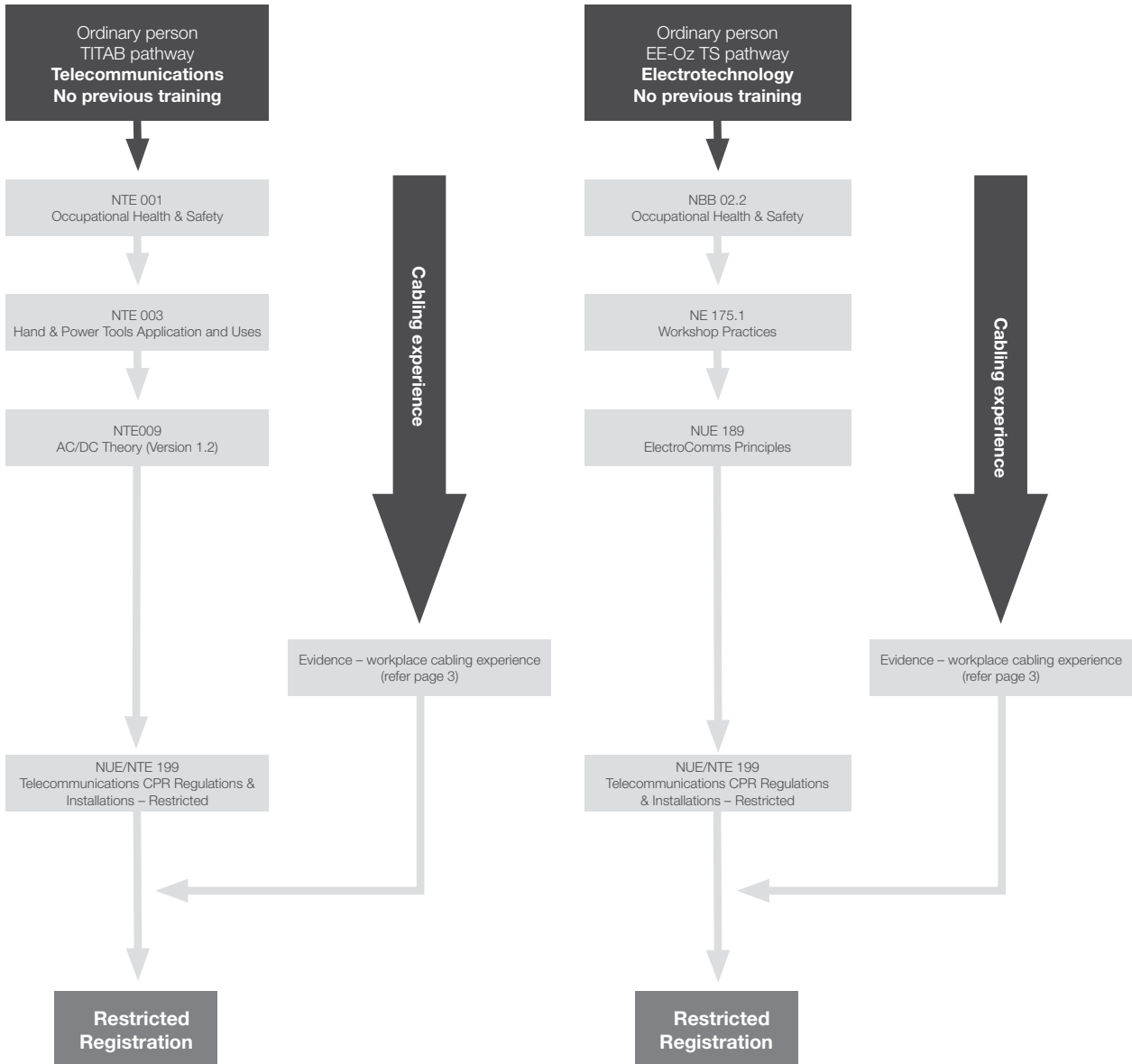


Chart 9: Electrotechnology Training Package (UEE07) Pathways to ACMA Cabling Provider Rules Cabler Registration

Module based programs for CPR: An RTO may deliver and issue transcripts of successful completion of modular based programs to meet the CPR registration requirements of the Telecommunications Regulator, the ACMA (Australian Communications and Media Authority). The module based option is widely used by cabling sectors of the alarm and security industries and other non-mainstream telecommunications sectors.

UEE07 changes: Completion of curriculum modules as currency supporting national electrotechnology vocational education and training qualifications and statements of attainment ceased when the UTE99 version of the Electrotechnology Training Package was superseded by the UEE07 version.

In the UEE07 version of the Training Package, qualifications and statements of achievement are gained by the achievement of the Units of Competency specified in the packaging rules.

As a unit of competency incorporates both the required knowledge, skills and standards of performance for the scope of work it covers, RTOs are obligated to issue transcripts for a Qualification, or, State of Attainment, listing only the national code and title of units of competency achieved.

From the foregoing, under the Electrotechnology Training Package UEE07, there are only competency-based pathways to ACMA cabler registration.

ACMA CABLER REGISTRATION COMPETENCY PATHWAYS UNDER UEE07 ELECTROTECHNOLOGY TRAINING PACKAGE

Open Registration for persons who are not a licensed electrician or experienced cabler.

Achievement of the following:

- > UEENEEF002B Lay and connect cables for multiple access to telecommunication services.

Pre-requisites: The transcript from an RTO should also include achievement of the following prerequisite units.

- > UEENEEE002B Dismantle, assemble and fabricate electrotechnology components
- > UEENEEE003B Solve problems in extra-low voltage single path circuits
- > UEENEEE004B Solve problems in multiple path d.c. circuits
- > UEENEEE005B Fix and secure equipment
- > UEENEEE007B Use drawings, diagrams, schedules and manuals

Open Registration for persons who hold a licence to carry out electrical work unsupervised.

Achievement of the Unit:

- > UEENEEF002B Lay and connect cables for multiple access to telecommunication services.

Restricted Registration for persons who are not a licensed electrician or experienced cabler.

Achievement of the following:

- > UEENEEF001B Lay and connect cabling for direct access to telecommunication services

Pre-requisites: The transcript from an RTO should also include achievement of the following prerequisite units.

- > UEENEEE002B Dismantle, assemble and fabricate electrotechnology components
- > UEENEEE005B Fix and secure equipment
- > UEENEEE007B Use drawings, diagrams, schedules and manuals
- > UEENEEF006B Solve problems in data and voice communications circuits

Restricted Registration for persons who hold a licence to carry out electrical work unsupervised.

UEENEEF001B Lay and connect cabling for direct access to telecommunication services.

Earlier Qualifications: Cablers may also present earlier qualifications to registrars, as the module based options continue for ACMA CPR purposes. The gaining of the NTE/NUE 199 module as CPR recognition continues to be available to cablers.

Chart 10: Endorsements for Open CPR qualified cablers

For experienced cablers with Open CPR qualifications, there will often be a requirement for industry-recognised endorsements. These are not mandated by the ACMA.

The RTO or a registrar recognised trainer has the responsibility to ensure the pre-requisite requirements are met for these and recording evidence of credits, completed qualification or assessing and providing a Statement of Attainment.

Registrars need the usual level of evidence to record the endorsements for Open CPR registrants.

Competencies in other national training packages are also recognised by registrars when they align with the benchmark competencies.

Current endorsements recognised by registrars are:-

- > Optical Fibre Benchmark competency ICTTC010C
OR UEENEEF005B
- > Co-Axial cable Benchmark competency ICTTC 011C
- > Structured cable (eg Cat.6) Benchmark competency ICTTC 009C
OR UEENEEF004B
- > Underground Benchmark competencies ICTTC 016C;018C and 019C
OR UEENEEF013B
- > Aerial Benchmark competencies ICTTC016C; 020C and 021C
OR UEENEEF012B
- > Cable System Testing Benchmark competency ICTTC 013C
OR UEENEEF011B

After the introduction by ACMA of what is usually called in industry, "...the 500 metre rule..." the non-carrier cabler has an additional scope of work by being able to cable down the street using Underground or Aerial cabling to link two premises of the same customer.

This link is on the customer side of the Network Boundary and therefore is defined as customer cabling even though it goes outside the first property to the second and for example, may contain extensions off the PABX at the first property

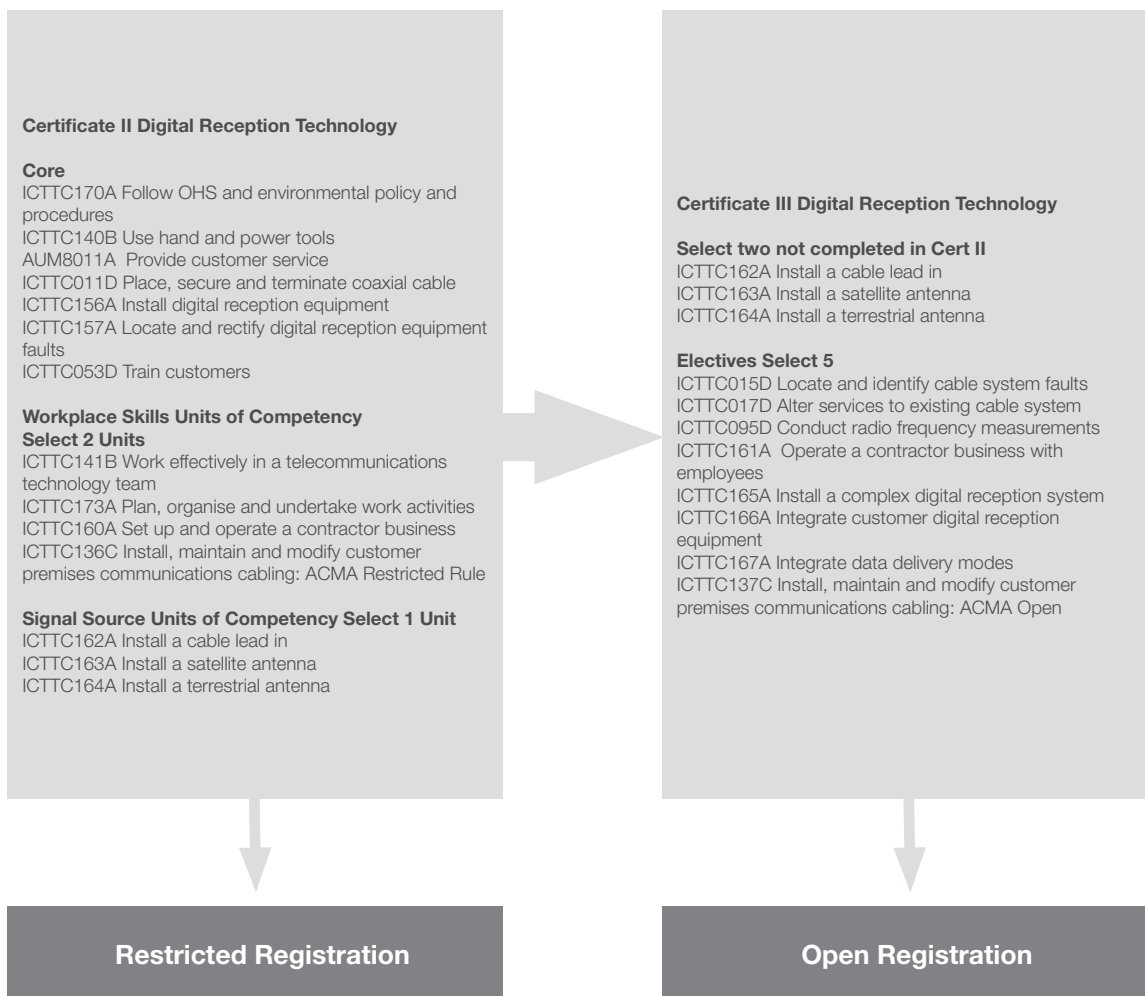
NOTE: The Aerial and Underground endorsements are applicable for Cabling Providers, but not ACMA mandatory for Aerial and Underground cabling installations made under the 500 metre rule.

Chart 11: Digital Reception Technology

The digital reception sector of the telecommunications industry looks after the design, installation and maintenance of radio frequency (RF) reception systems covering Terrestrial, Satellite, Cable and wireless. An ACMA CPR registration may be required and normal criteria applies. (Refer Section 3)

Cabling on customer premises should always be in accordance with the relevant Australian/New Zealand Technical Standards, even in cases where a CPR is not required.

The sector provides two pathways via the Certificate II and Certificate III recognising CPR as a fundamental aspect of the converging nature of Digital reception devices. Industry groups have included CPR as a mandatory requirement in some skill sets.



04

Methodology for developing pathways

Background

In September 2003, the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA), now a function of the Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR), originally funded the pathways project. It is to guide trainers, employers, assessors, registrars and cabling on how to meet the regulatory requirements of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) for CPR registration and training, and to enable individuals to have their skills formally recognised and benchmarked against ACMA requirements for CPR registration.

An update was completed in 2007 and again in 2009, funded by Innovation & Business Skills Australia (IBSA), and supported by EE-Oz Training Standards (EE-Oz), ACMA and TITAB Australia.

Development process

The pathways development process since 2003 has involved:

- > research into existing pathways and types of cabling registration candidates
- > Australia-wide industry focus groups to assess industry stakeholder issues
- > review and refinement of pathways to address industry stakeholder issues and candidate needs
- > Australia-wide validation of refined pathways with industry stakeholders
- > documentation and consolidation of pathways in consultation with ACMA and key stakeholders, first revising content in 2006/2007 to simplify the pathways document for end users and further updating in 2009
- > addressing the concerns of state/territory training authorities in relation to audits and findings on alignment of pathways with the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF)

Cabling Provider Rules Registration and the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF)

The principles in this document apply to the ACMA Cabling Provider Rules (CPR) registration system and are not to be substituted for requirements of the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF).

The national communications regulator, ACMA, sets out requirements for cabling in an industry context and state/territory training authorities administer the national AQTF requirements.

05

Open, restricted
and lift cabling
work

The following information on cabling work is based on the *Telecommunications Cabling Provider Rules 2000* (CPRs), as amended, made under subsection 421 (1) of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*. The full consolidated version is on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au (go to **For licensees and industry**: Licensing and regulation > Telecommunications regulation > Cabling licensing > Cabling Provider Rules).

Three Types

These rules apply to three types of customer cabling work—open, restricted and lift.

Open cabling work

Open cabling work is any type of customer cabling work (including aerial or underground cabling work on private or public property) in which the customer cabling that is used terminates at the network boundary on a socket, a network termination device or a distributor.

Examples of distributors

- 1/ Building distributor (formerly known as a main distribution frame)
- 2/ Campus distributor

Many in the industry describe this as “where no jumpering or cross connection is involved”.

Restricted cabling work

The Cabling Provider Rules define **restricted cabling work** as:

- 1/ Subject to subsection (2), the following cabling work is restricted cabling work:
 - a) cabling work (including aerial or underground cabling work on private property):
 - i) that is performed only in relation to a customer’s premises; and
 - ii) in which the electrical supply voltage does not exceed typical domestic single-phase (240V ac) and three-phase (415V ac) electrical supply voltages; (iii) in which the customer cabling that is used terminates at the network boundary on a socket or network termination device;
 - b) cabling work in which customer cabling is connected to customer equipment that complies with:
 - i) the Act; and
 - ii) the requirements of the Labelling Notice;
 - c) cabling work that meets each of the following criteria:
 - i) the work is performed only in relation to a customer’s premises;
 - ii) the electrical supply voltage does not exceed the typical domestic single-phase (240V ac) and three-phase (415V ac) electrical supply voltages;
 - iii) the supply voltages are identifiable by every person performing the cabling work;
 - iv) the electrical power cables are inaccessible to any person performing the cabling work

Note: Section 4.6 sets out requirements that must be met if a cabling provider is performing restricted cabling work that relates to aerial cabling.

- 2) Subsection (1) does not apply to cabling work:
- a) performed between customer equipment and any of the following jumperable distributors or jumperable frames, and terminating at the distributor or frame:
 - i) a Building Distributor;
 - ii) a Campus Distributor;
 - iii) a Local Distributor;
 - iv) a Floor Distributor;
 - v) a System Distribution Frame;
 - vi) a Test Point Frame; or
 - b) involving cable pairs that are included in cable sheaths shared with other services; or
 - c) performed between customer equipment and a patch panel, and terminating at the patch panel.

Examples of restricted cabling work

- 1/ Cabling work connected behind an alarm panel or modem (but not via a jumperable distributor, a jumperable frame or a patch panel).
- 2/ Cabling work connected directly behind a Customer Switching System (but not via a jumperable distributor, a jumperable frame or a patch panel).
- 3/ Cabling work for additional phone points (other than the first point) in a commercial, high rise or multi-storey building, if the service involved is a standard telephone service (but not via a jumperable distributor, a jumperable frame or a patch panel).
- 4/ Cabling work for a home automation system (but not via a jumperable distributor, a jumperable frame or a patch panel).

Lift cabling work

Lift cabling work is defined in the Cabling Provider Rules as work:

- a) that is performed in relation to a lift that has been installed, or is to be installed; and
- b) in relation to which the customer cabling that is used connects:
 - i) a cross connection point adjacent to the lift motor room; and
 - ii) the lift control cubicle within the lift motor room; and
 - iii) the lift cars.

Examples of cross connection points

- 1/ The Floor Distributor (formerly known as the Intermediate Distribution Frame).
- 2/ The Local Distributor (formerly known as the Final Distribution Point).
- 3/ Another suitable cable termination point adjacent to the lift motor room.

Telecommunications cabling work in Lift is covered by the ACMA CPR requirements.

Electrical work is covered by the electrical industry and the EE-OZ Training Package.

Cablers registered as Open CPR are also qualified to work on telecommunications Lift cabling as an ‘Open’ CPR obviously exceeds requirements for both Lift and Restricted.

More information

More detailed information about the CPRs and arrangements for cabler registration is available on request from ACMA.

06

Cabling provider rules

The **Telecommunications Cabling Provider Rules 2000** (CPRs) regulate the cabling industry and replaced the previous cabler licensing system with an industry-managed registration scheme.

CPRs ensure that minimum cabling requirements are in place to promote safety and maintain network integrity.

The major requirements of CPRs are that:

- 1/ All customer cabling work in the telecommunications, fire security and data industries must be performed by a registered cabler.
- 2/ Depending on the cabling work performed, cablers must obtain either an Open, Restricted or Lift registration that meets ACMA's training competency requirements.
- 3/ Cabling work must comply with the Wiring Rules. The Wiring Rules detail the minimum requirements for cabling installations to ensure that network integrity and the health and safety of end-users, other cablers and carrier personnel is protected.
- 4/ A key requirement of the Wiring Rules is that telecommunications cabling is adequately separated or segregated from electrical cabling to avoid creating a dangerous situation.
- 5/ Cablers are required to install only cabling product (including cable) and customer equipment that complies with the requirements of the Labelling Notice.
- 6/ Cablers must, at the completion of each cabling task, provide the client (i.e. the customer or employer, whichever is appropriate) with a job sign-off form, such as a telecommunications cabling advice form (TCA).
- 7/ Registered cablers must directly supervise an unqualified cabler's cabling work. This is known as the Supervision Rule.

8/ Under the Supervision Rule, a qualified cabler must accept full responsibility for the work done by an unqualified cabler and ensure that it fully complies with the Wiring Rules including signing the TCA form.

9/ Cablers must provide all reasonable cooperation and assistance to ACMA inspectors and cabling auditors. Cablers can be subject to fines if they do not abide by their registration conditions.

10/ Cablers are required to notify their registrar of any change of contact details within 21 days.

More information

This is a brief overview of the CPRs and does not list all the obligations and responsibilities of cablers performing telecommunications cabling work. Cablers should make themselves familiar with the requirements of the *Telecommunications Cabling Provider Rules 2000*, which is on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au or contact ACMA on telephone 1300 850 115, fax (03) 9963 6970 or email to cabling@acma.gov.au.

Document is a guide: This document is intended as a guide only. For this reason, the information should not be relied on as legal advice or regarded as a substitute for legal advice in individual cases. **This document is on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au/webwr/aca_home/registers/cabling_licences/pathways.pdf.**

Offences

A person who intentionally or recklessly contravenes the requirements for CPRs is guilty of an offence punishable on conviction by a fine of more than \$13,000.

07

Contact details TITAB, EE-OZ, ACMA & IBSA

For more information or advice about the use of this document or other issues concerning cabler training and registration contact one of the organisations listed.

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