



REGISTERED NATIONAL QUALIFICATION

Title:	National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 4 ¹				
Version:	1	Qualification type:	National qualification	TQF level:	4
Credits:	63	TQF Registration code:	QR-04-NQ-028-04-1005-26-01		
Approval date:	10 September 2026		Next review:	10 September 2031	
Qualification developer:		1. Tonga National University School of Science and Technology Bay-‘o-Manumataongo Ma’ufanga Nuku’alofa 2. Pacific Australia Skills Government of Australia-Tonga Nuku’alofa, Tonga			
Purpose:	The <i>National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 4</i> is aimed at: • experienced tile layers • apprentices, • construction workers seeking to advance their technical knowledge and practical skills within the tile laying trade • individuals aspiring to progress into leading hand, supervisory, or specialist brick and block laying roles • existing trades people who wish to formalise their competencies through a nationally recognised qualification in the tiling trade.				

¹ This Tonga national qualification, *National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 4* is considered equivalent to the Australian CPC31320 *Certificate III in Wall and Floor Tiling (trade-level tiling units)*; CPC 31020 *Certificate III in Solid plastering, (trade-level plastering units)*; and BSB30220 *Certificate III in Entrepreneurship and New Business and New Zealand Certificate in Trowel Trades (L4)*.

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National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 4

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The qualification provides an opportunity for learners to enhance their employability, leadership capability, and career progression within Tonga's tiling and construction industry.

The qualification responds directly to industry demand for highly skilled tile layers capable of undertaking complex tiling projects while maintaining high standards of workmanship, safety, and compliance. It meets the needs of individuals by enhancing their employability, career advancement opportunities, and professional credibility through recognised trade skills. It supports the profession and industry by developing competent tilers who can deliver quality workmanship, comply with safety requirements, and contribute to improved productivity and construction standards. For the community, the qualification helps ensure the availability of skilled trades people who can contribute to the construction and maintenance of safe, durable, and aesthetically pleasing buildings and infrastructure.

On successful completion, graduates will be able to plan and carry out wall and floor tiling projects in accordance with industry standards and workplace requirements. They will be competent in interpreting plans and specifications, preparing surfaces, selecting and using tools and materials, applying adhesives and grouts, installing a range of tile finishes, complying with health and safety requirements, and conducting quality checks. They will also demonstrate teamwork, client service, and problem-solving skills while maintaining industry standards of safety, quality, and productivity.

The qualification is directly relevant to wall and floor tiling and supports employment across the construction sector, including residential, commercial, infrastructure, renovation, and maintenance projects. It is also valuable for apprentices, trades assistants, and interior finishing workers, while providing a pathway to advanced qualifications, specialist roles, and supervisory positions. Its broad industry relevance ensures graduates possess transferable skills that meet current and emerging workforce needs across the tiling sector.

The qualification supports the Government of Tonga's Strategic Development Framework 2035 by strengthening technical and vocational education and training (TVET), improving workforce capability, increasing employment opportunities, supporting resilient infrastructure development, and contributing to sustainable economic growth through the development of a skilled local tiling and construction workforce. Through strong

	industry engagement and competency-based training, the qualification contributes to building a resilient and future-ready construction workforce aligned with Tonga's long-term development goals.
Rationale	This qualification is developed in response to the increasing demand for specialised skilled wall and floor tilers within Tonga's tiling sector. Industry consultation and labour market analysis identified significant shortages of qualified tilers with competencies in specialised tiling techniques, waterproofing systems, surface preparation, and decorative finishing applications. The qualification provides a structured competency-based training pathway aligned with industry best practices and standards requirements. It is designed for experienced tile layers, apprentices, and construction workers seeking to advance their technical knowledge and practical skills within the tile laying trade. It is also suitable for individuals aspiring to progress into leading hand, supervisory, or specialist tile laying roles, as well as existing tradespeople who wish to formalise their competencies through a nationally recognised qualification in the tiling trade. It also provides employers with a nationally recognised pathway for developing competent and industry-ready tilers. The interested candidates must meet the entry requirement of the programme.
Outcomes Statement	Graduates of the <i>National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 4</i> will be able to independently perform wall and floor tiling work in residential, commercial, and community construction projects to industry standards. They will apply technical knowledge and practical skills to demonstrate autonomy and to make judgements in both predictable and unpredictable contexts by interpreting drawings and specifications, planning and organising tiling activities, preparing surfaces and substrates, selecting and using appropriate materials, tools, and equipment, and install a variety of wall and floor tile finishes. Graduates will demonstrate effective communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and self-management skills required to work productively within construction environments. They will be capable of producing high-quality tiling work, identifying and resolving installation issues, maintaining professional standards, and contributing to efficient project completion. Graduates of the National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 4 prepares learners to become competent trades people with the ability to:

	• Conduct work area specific hazard identification and risk controls to maintain a safe work site • Safely sets up and removes limited height scaffolding for wall and floor tile tasks • Select and use plastering tools and equipment to achieve quality surface finishes. • Prepare surfaces to ensure proper adhesion and durability of plaster applications. • Apply rendering techniques to produce smooth and even finishes on both flat and curved surfaces. • Safely demolish minor structure, fit-outs and materials to existing structures before new work • Identify defects and carry out repairs on damaged tiles to restore functionality and appearance. • Create decorative tile patterns and finishes to enhance visual appeal of surfaces. • Follow and install mosaic tiling for detailed and artistic applications. • Apply tiling techniques to curved areas while maintaining alignment and finish quality. • Apply foundational entrepreneurial knowledge and skills to identify viable business opportunities, make informed start-up decisions, plan financing needs, and develop a business plan for a small enterprise. The <i>National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 4</i> strengthens Tonga's Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system by providing an industry-endorsed qualification that responds to current and future workforce needs. It contributes to improving construction quality, increasing workforce productivity, enhancing employment opportunities, and supporting the development of a skilled national workforce capable of delivering safe, resilient, and sustainable infrastructure across Tonga.																
Qualification Components	This qualification consists of the following units of competency: <table><tr><th></th><th>Unit Code</th><th>Unit Title</th><th>Credit value</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>NS151-04</td><td>Identify work area hazards and select risk control strategies</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>NS152-03</td><td>Erect and dismantle limited height scaffolding</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>NS149-03</td><td>Use plastering tools and equipment</td><td>3</td></tr></table>		Unit Code	Unit Title	Credit value	1	NS151-04	Identify work area hazards and select risk control strategies	4	2	NS152-03	Erect and dismantle limited height scaffolding	4	3	NS149-03	Use plastering tools and equipment	3
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	4	NS150-03	Prepare surfaces for plastering	3
	5	NS164-04	Apply plaster and render to straight and curved surfaces	5
	6	NS144-03	Carry out basic demolition	4
	7	NS175-04	Repair wall and floor tiles	7
	8	NS176-04	Install decorative tiling	10
	9	NS177-04	Install mosaic tiling	8
	10	NS178-04	Install tiles to curved surfaces	8
	11	NS070-02	Entrepreneurship 1	7
Total Credits				63
<u>Note:</u> 1. The above units of competency can be delivered as short courses or micro-credentials consisting of two or more units with total credits ranging from 10 – 39 depending on the training needs of an interested training provider. 2. Approval for short course or micro-credential delivery be sought from TNQAB prior to delivery.				
Entry Requirements²	The minimum entry requirements to this national certificate include the following: 1. Be at least 18 years old (at the current year this qualification is delivered) 2. Successful completion of: i) National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 3 (QR-03-NQ-028-03-1005-26-01) OR ii) Industrial workers with minimum of three years (equivalent to 36 months) work experience in tiling work seeking formal recognition of their experience through RPL			
Learning Assumed to be in Place	• Apply OHS requirements, policies and procedures • Work efficiently in the workplace • Plan and organise tiling work • Conduct workplace communication • Read and interpret plans and specifications for tiling • Carry out measurements and calculations for tiling work • Undertake basic estimating and costing for tiling work			

² Program promotion and enrolments must encourage inclusive practices relating to gender equality, disability inclusion, and non-discrimination in training and at workplace.

	• Handle and prepare tiling materials • Use tiling tools and equipment • Apply basic levelling procedures • Work safely at heights • Carry out concreting to simple forms • Prepare surfaces for tiling application • Apply waterproofing process for tiling • Install floor tiles • Install wall tiles
International Comparability	This Tonga national qualification is closely aligned to: 1. Australian CPC31320 Certificate III in Wall and Floor Tiling (trade-level tiling units) 2. Australian CPC31020 Certificate III in Solid plastering (trade-level plastering units) 3. Australian BSB30220 Certificate III in Entrepreneurship and New Business 4. New Zealand Certificate in Trowel Trades (L4) The Tongan Units of Competency have been independently developed for the Tongan construction context, reflecting local construction materials, building methods, the Tonga National Building Code, industry practices, and applicable Tongan occupational health and safety standards. It has been developed to meet Tonga's workforce and industry requirements.
Recognition of Prior Learning	This qualification may be achieved in whole or in part through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) which considers skills and knowledge gained in different settings including the community, workplace and educational institutions, and in accordance with relevant national and institutional policies and processes. Learners can achieve competence in ways most suited to their individual needs (educational, or work) and aspirations. Learners are not required to do the listed units below if they had passed these units in the named qualifications below: i) <i>National Certificate in Bricklaying and Blocklaying Level 3</i> (QR-03-NQ-028-01-1005-26-01) – NS144-03, NS149-03 and NS150-03 ii) <i>National Certificate in Bricklaying and Blocklaying Level 4</i> (QR-04-NQ-028-02-1005-26-01) – NS151-04, NS152-03, NS164-04 and NS070-02 iii) <i>National Certificate in Work-readiness and Employability Skills Level 2</i> (QR-02-NQ-001-0903-22-01) – NS070-02

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	OR in any other TNQAB recognized training prior to enrolling. Any individual without prior formal qualification but has prior technical experience (3 years+) on tile laying work may apply/request RPL for this level of training program. The learner wishing to apply/request RPL needs to apply in writing to the training providers. Assessment for RPL must be undertaken by a qualified assessor. Evidence of skills and knowledge acquired must be shown before recognition can be given. Evidence collected shall be portfolio and workplace observation. RPL acknowledges existing skills and knowledge gained from previous learning, both formally (e.g. courses or study previously undertaken) and informally (workplace learning and experiences). Sufficient evidence should be gathered and analysis completed by the RPL assessor to confirm all unit requirements are met to justify the assessment outcome.
Credit transfer	The Tonga Qualifications Framework (TQF) as well as most other Frameworks allow for credit recognition and transfer from other regional or national qualifications through a process of mutual recognition. Credit transfer is a process whereby credits already achieved for one qualification are recognized towards a new qualification. Thus, if a learner has obtained the relevant competency (within the past five years) in: 1. A qualification which has been identified as equivalent to <i>NCWFTL4</i>, they will receive credit for unit standards which have been successfully completed. Evidence of achievement will be required by relevant authorities before credit transfer is approved; 2. A TNQAB approved qualification that contains any of the component units of this national qualification; 3. A TNQAB approved short course that is made up of any of the component units of this national qualification, he or she will cross credit recognition. Evidence of achievement will be required by relevant authorities before credit transfer is approved.

	A regional approved Micro-qualification or approved short course that is made up of any of the component units of this national qualification, he or she will cross credit recognition. Evidence of achievement will be required by relevant authorities before credit transfer is approved.
Learning Pathways	<u>Pathways in</u> - Successful graduates of the National Certificate in Wall and Floor Tiling Level 3 (QR-03-NQ-028-03-1005-26-01) or equivalent. - Tile workers without formal qualifications but with minimum of three years (equivalent to 36 months) work experience in tiling willing to acquire formal qualifications. - Interested candidates who are passion at tiling work - Completion of relevant short courses/micro-credential - Candidates who meet the entry requirement <u>Pathways out:</u> - Graduates will go straight into employment as Tile layer or Tiler. - Leading Hand, Foreman and Supervisor at workplace in Construction. - Certificate IV in Building Construction (Australia) - Diploma in Building Construction (New Zealand)
Support for Qualification	This national qualification has gained the support of the following organisations: - Tonga National University, School of Science and Technology, Tonga - Ministry of Education and Training, Tonga - Ministry of Infrastructure, Building Division, Tonga - Pacific Australia Skills, Government of Australia, Tonga
Accreditation Requirements	Important accreditation requirements include: - Teaching staff must have: - At least a level 5 qualification in an area relevant to Wall and Floor Tiling plus (3) years of relevant industry experience; - A relevant registered qualification Level 5 as a trainer and assessor in TVET; - If the teaching staff/a person does not comply with the requirements in subsection 1 (a and b) shall be assessed by

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an assessor recognised by the Tonga National Qualifications and Accreditation Board of the person's prior learning.

3. A teaching staff/a person who has been assessed under subsection (2) shall be granted recognition of prior learning where the assessor is satisfied that he has the skills and knowledge one level higher than the course of study.
4. Physical resources including:
 - Workshop
 - Training room
 - Tools
 - Equipment
 - Materials
5. Documents:
 - Compilation of printed resources relevant to the component units
6. Specialised resources for each unit of competency including:
 - Tonga Environmental Act
 - Tonga National Building Code
7. Unit descriptors or general course outline ready for distribution to students with details of:
 - a) Learning outcomes, qualification components, credit values, entry requirements, learning assumed to be in place, required training resources etc.
 - b) Assessment details including assessment tasks and due dates, marking guidelines, moderation information, and other requirements about the completion of each unit
 - c) Recommended textbooks/readings for students, and
 - d) Names and contact details of teaching staff