

**The Vehicle Safety Compliance Certification Scheme J&P (VSCCS J&P) is a new scheme to licence competent individuals to inspect modified vehicles and certify compliance with the applicable vehicle standards.**

### **Why is there a new scheme?**

VSCCS J&P is a new requirement for certification in New South Wales following the introduction of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) in February 2014.

Prior to February 2014, simple J&P code (body-fit and tow-coupling/fifth wheel) modifications did not require certification in NSW because they were considered low risk modifications and compliance with the applicable standards was managed through the annual registration inspection process.

### **What sort of vehicles need certification?**

Modified vehicles that may require certification include vehicles subject to body fit and tow coupling/fifth wheel modifications, also referred to as J and P code modifications.

### **Who can become a certifier?**

Any fit and proper person with relevant qualifications and experience in the automotive industry can apply.

### **Can a business apply for a licence?**

No, only a natural person (individual) may apply.

### **Does a certifier need tertiary qualifications?**

Certified licensees are required to possess a minimum Certificate III as outlined on the Roads and Maritime Services (Roads and Maritime) website and five years relevant work experience or two years as a Heavy Vehicle Authorised Inspection Scheme (HVAIS) Examiner.

### **Do I need experience in all vehicle types?**

A VSCCS J&P licence allows a certifier to assess vehicles and modifications for body and tow couplings/fifth wheel modifications as per Vehicle Standards Bulletin 6 (VSB 6).

### **What about licence fees?**

There is a licence application fee and a triennial fee. The current fees are displayed at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/vscs-jp](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/vscs-jp).

**Note:** Application fee is non refundable.

### **What is involved in the Competency Assessment?**

As part of the process of assessing your application, you will be asked to demonstrate your competence to work in the licence categories you have indicated on your form. This will include:

- An assessment of your qualifications and experience
- A self-declaration of skills, experience and professional development
- A declaration from a relevant third party that you have the appropriate skills

- An online skills test.

Following the submission of your application, Roads and Maritime will make an assessment of your qualifications and experience.

Following a favourable assessment, you will be granted access to an online skills test comprising random multiple choice questions. The skills test will assess your knowledge on J and P code modifications, with a focus on the relevant vehicle standards bulletins, regulations and Australian Design Rules (ADRs).

Roads and Maritime reserves the right to request applicants to attend a formal interview to seek clarification of any details provided in the application process.

Examples of questions asked could include:

- What is the current NSW regulation relevant to certifying modified vehicles in NSW?
- Explain what Vehicle Standards Bulletin 6 covers and how is it related to the services a licensed certifier provides?
- What applicable ADRs would apply to a body fit?
- What is the minimum acceptable factor of safety for body mounting components when exposed to the maximum load conditions without exceeding the yield of material?

### **How do I submit an application?**

Start by reading the guide [Becoming a VSCCS J&P Licensed Certifier](#). The guide includes information on working as a certifier, licence categories, being a fit and proper person, and how your application will be assessed.

To make an application, complete [Application for a Certifier's Licence form](#) and submit it as detailed in the form with application fee.

### **What happens to my application?**

Roads and Maritime will confirm your eligibility based on your qualifications and experience and conduct a criminal record check. Your application will not progress any further until you have met the minimum qualification requirement.

Subject to eligibility, you will be invited to undertake an online skills test where a detailed assessment of your competence will be conducted.

### **What insurance do I need to hold?**

As a certifier, you need to hold \$20 million public liability insurance and \$5 million professional indemnity insurance. This is available under the Roads and Maritimes' Principal Arranged Insurance (PAI) cover, or you can operate under your own insurance if it meets required criteria.

### **Do I need to use a computer?**

Yes. As a certifier, you will need a computer and internet access to use the VSCCS IT system to issue VSCCS J&P certificates.

### **Is there a maximum inspection fee?**

No. Roads and Maritime does not regulate the fees for a vehicle inspection under the VSCCS J&P. These fees for service are a matter for negotiation between the certifier and their customers.

### **What is the audit process involved with the VSCCS J&P?**

The audit model that Roads and Maritime is using is a three year rolling model that involves at least one onsite audit and two self assessments within a three year period.

### **Where do I get more information?**

Find more information about the VSCCS J&P on the Roads and Maritime website at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/vscs-jp](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/vscs-jp).

Alternatively contact the VSCCS team on **1300 791 186** or email [vsccs@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vsccs@rms.nsw.gov.au).