From 1 July 2015, Roads and Maritime Services will introduce a nationally-recognised competency-based framework into its suite of training courses for traffic controllers.

The introduction of a competency framework is based on the Austroads research report, *Traffic Control at Worksites – Training and Accreditation*, which recommends a set of standards, skill sets and units of competency for traffic controllers.

Please refer to the *Changes to Traffic Control Training in NSW* fact sheet for more information about the improvements to traffic control training.

**Q What qualification is changing?**

Changes are being made to the **Traffic Controller** qualification, currently referred to as **Blue Card** training. This qualification is for employees who manage traffic through or past a roadwork site, directing traffic with a stop/slow down baton or similar control device.

**Q What are the skills and competencies required for the Traffic Controller qualification?**

- Stop/direct road users using a stop/slow bat and understand stopping sight distances
- Maintain traffic incident reports
- Understand the Traffic Guidance Schemes (TGSs) also known as Traffic Control Plan (TCPs) for the site
- Assess and respond to changes in the environment, for example traffic volumes, weather conditions, road conditions, Work Health and Safety (WHS) and operational requirements
- Carry out risk assessments for personal safety
- Participate in toolbox talks (specific to traffic control)
- Use communication methods and devices
- Conform to traffic control policy and procedures.

**Q What are the units of competency required for the Traffic Controller qualification?**

- RIIWHS201A Work safely and follow WHS policies and work procedures
- RIIWHS205A Control traffic with a stop/slow baton
- RIICOM201A Communicate in the workplace.
Q Will this affect my current Traffic Controller qualification?
If you are currently working as a traffic controller, your current qualification will remain valid until its expiry as you are already demonstrating the appropriate skills and knowledge.

Q What happens when my Traffic Controller qualification expires after 1 July 2015?
Your qualification must be recertified when your qualification expires. A number of options will be offered that may include on-the-job assessment or recognition of prior learning. Depending on your skill level, knowledge and experience, you may need to complete a course or attend gap training.
Each person has a different experience and skill level. You will be provided with the appropriate options when you apply for recertification with a registered provider.

Q What if my Traffic Controller qualification expires before 1 July 2015?
As there are minimal changes to this qualification, you may enrol in the current course and update your photo card before 1 July 2015. It will be current for a full three years and recognised by Roads and Maritime and employers.

Q I am new to the industry and I wish to get qualified before 1 July, what do I do?
If you wish to enter the industry before 1 July, you can enrol in one of the current recognised courses. Training courses are still being facilitated throughout NSW each week. You can visit our website for a list of current courses and a list of current providers. You can also contact our support team on 1300 828 782.

Further information

Other fact sheets and information available on the Roads and Maritime website include:
- Fact Sheet No 1 Changes to Traffic Control Training in NSW
- Fact Sheet No 3 Changes to the Implement Traffic Control Plans qualification
- Fact Sheet No 4 Changes to the Select and Modify Traffic Control Plans qualification
- Fact Sheet No 5 Changes to the Design and Inspect Traffic Control Plans qualification