

Media Release

Energy Safe Victoria

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ESV introduces Continuing Professional Development

The electrical services industry is technically complex, sometimes hazardous and subject to regulatory changes. It's also an industry that is moving rapidly and requires electrical workers to stay up to date with ongoing technological advancements.

To maintain safety, competency and compliance in the industry, ESV will introduce Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for licensed electrical workers. The CPD program will be introduced in a series of stages, and will not be a legal requirement until 2023.

CPD is the means by which the knowledge, skills, and competence of a licence holder is maintained, improved, broadened, and enhanced. It is being introduced across multiple licence types.

Under the new program, licensed electrical workers will participate in training to ensure they maintain and extend their professional knowledge and skills, including keeping up to date with safety, regulatory and technical developments relevant to the industry.

The CPD program will be made up of two components – skills maintenance and skills development. Different licence classes will have specific requirements within the program. For example, electricians will need to complete both skills maintenance and skills development, while holders of restricted electrical licences (REL) will only be required to complete the skills maintenance component.

In brief:

- Skills maintenance training cannot exceed 8 hours duration per licence class
- Skills maintenance training must be completed within the 2-year period before licence renewal
- Skills development training must be completed within the 5-year period before licence renewal
- Non-completion of CPD training may affect licence renewal
- Training will be delivered face-to-face
- Training will be made available in a number of metro and regional locations

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Who will undertake CPD?

Electrical workers in the following licence classes will be required to undertake CPD as per the table below.

Licence type	Skills Maintenance	Skills Development
Electrician	✓	✓
Electrical Inspector	✓	✓
Electrician (Supervised) (ES)	✓	✓
Supervised Licence	✗	✗
Switchgear Licence	✓	✗
Restricted Electrical Licence	✓	✗
* <u>Lineworker Licence</u>	✓	✗
Occupiers Licence	✗	✗

**The first lineworker licence renewals will commence in 2026*

Key dates

The CPD program is expected to roll out over the following timeframe:

- 2020 – 2022 - develop, trial and run skills maintenance courses
- From 2023 - all applicants for renewal will need to have completed the skills maintenance course
- From 2028 - specific licence classes up for renewal will need to have completed the skills maintenance course AND approved skills development activities.

CPD for Licensed Electrical Workers

CPD for LEWs	Training available from	Required for renewals from
Skills Maintenance	2022	2023
Skills Development	2023	2028

Note: licence renewals from 2028 will require the completion of skills maintenance AND skills development, if applicable to the licence class.

CPD for Lineworkers

CPD for lineworkers	Training available from	Required for renewals from
Skills Maintenance	2024	2026

For more information, please visit esv.vic.gov.au/cpd

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