

Certification of Radiation Sources and Premises

The *Radiation Safety Act 1999* requires possession licensees to obtain a Certificate of Compliance for:

- certain radiation source,
- certain premises where radiation sources are used, and
- premises where radioactive substances are stored

to demonstrate that the sources and premises comply with the relevant radiation safety standard.

Certificates of Compliance may only be issued by accredited persons. Accredited persons must follow the specified process, time frames and documentation requirements for the certification of a radiation source or premises. These are set out in the *Radiation Safety Act 1999*.

Who is Accredited?

Accredited persons have been granted an accreditation certificate by Queensland Health. The accreditation certificate will state the type of radiation source or premises for which the accredited person is allowed to issue a certificate of compliance.

A list of accredited persons is available from Radiation Health. This list is updated as new details become available. Please ensure you have a current list.

What is an Assessment Report?

If an accredited person decides to accept a request from a possession licensee to assess the licensee's sources or premises, the accredited person is required to complete an Assessment Report. This report will indicate whether or not the tests required by the radiation safety standard have been satisfactorily complied with.

If the radiation source or premises have been assessed as not meeting one or more of the tests, the requirements that need to be satisfied in order for the source or premises to comply with the radiation safety standard will be written on the Assessment Report. The possession licensee must cease use of the equipment immediately. The possession licensee has 30 days within which to rectify the non-compliant items. On satisfactory completion of all of the requirements set out in the Assessment Report, the accredited person must issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Non-compliance in any test during the final assessment will result in the radiation source or premises being assessed as "non-compliant". Non-compliant radiation sources or premises are not approved for use.

The accredited person must provide a copy of the final Assessment Report to Queensland Health.

When do I need a Certificate of Compliance?

The Certificate of Compliance, issued under the *Radiation Safety Act 1999*, certifies that the radiation source or premises complies with the relevant radiation safety standard. Verification of compliance with the standard is required before initial use of the source or premises and then at intervals specified in the *Radiation Safety Regulation 2010*. The prescribed intervals are listed on the next page.

The Certificate of Compliance should be attached to the radiation source or displayed on the premises in a conspicuous location. This will allow users of the equipment to know that the equipment has been certified within the legislated timeframes. The Certificate will include the date by which the next assessment must be conducted.

Further Information

For further information, please contact an officer at Radiation Health.

Renewal Schedule

Certificates of Compliance must be obtained within the following periods.

Apparatus	Purpose	Renewal Schedule
Ionising radiation apparatus	ionising radiation apparatus used to carry out a diagnostic or therapeutic procedure involving the irradiation of a person (including mammography), other than an ionising radiation apparatus used to carry out intra-oral dental radiography or plain-film diagnostic radiography	Once a year
	ionising radiation apparatus used to carry out a radiation practice for a research project	Once a year
	ionising radiation apparatus used in the course of a person's study or training at an educational institution	Once a year ^{Note}
	ionising radiation apparatus used to carry out dental radiography or plain-film diagnostic radiography involving the irradiation of a person	Once every 3 years
	all other ionising radiation apparatus not covered above	Once every 3 years
Sealed source apparatus		
	sealed radioactive substance incorporated in a sealed source apparatus used to carry out a diagnostic or therapeutic procedure involving the irradiation of a person	Once a year
	sealed radioactive substance incorporated in a sealed source apparatus used to carry out a radiation practice for a research project	Once a year
	sealed radioactive substance incorporated in a sealed source apparatus used in the course of a person's study or training at an educational institution	Once a year
	all other sealed radioactive substances incorporated in sealed source apparatus not covered above	Once every 3 years
Laser apparatus		
	laser apparatus used to carry out a diagnostic, therapeutic or cosmetic procedure involving the irradiation of a person	Once a year
Premises		
	premises in which a radiation source is used to carry out a radiation practice	Once every 5 years
	premises in which radioactive substances are stored	Once every 5 years

^{Note} This does not relate to equipment used by undergraduates studying diagnostic radiography where the equipment is used during the students' supervised placement in a clinical setting.