

Approved Plumbers

Raising standards, raising confidence

The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 - now known universally as the Water Regulations - introduced the concept of "Approved Contractor Persons". What this means in practice is that a plumber who can prove, via an assessment, a knowledge of the Water Regulations, can join an Approved Contractor Person (ACP) scheme. The principal benefit for members of such schemes is that they can self-certify plumbing supply work (domestic commercial and industrial) that would otherwise have to wait for water company approval before work could commence.



The first embodiment of the ACP concept was the Water Industry Approved Plumber Scheme (WIAPS), set up by some of the water supply companies in England and Wales.

In July 1999, the Institute applied to the Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment Transport and the Regions (DETR) to run an ACP scheme and in August 2000 it became the first organisation outside of the water supply industry to receive approval. This Document sets out the main provisions of the Institute scheme and has an application form included. The main provisions are:

- the scheme is voluntary
- membership is currently free
- membership is open to all Institute members on the Register of Plumbers and who are practicing as plumbers
- the scheme covers England and Wales and is recognised under the Scottish Water Byelaws 2000
- membership of the scheme is conditional on the applicant having passed a recognised assessment on knowledge of the Water Regulations. Examinations are currently set by City & Guilds (via WTI Training Group) Tel: 01332 253500 and the British Plumbing Employers Council (BPEC) Tel 0131 225 2255
- scheme members must hold public/products liability insurance with a minimum indemnity of £2 million
- members of the scheme must undertake a minimum of five hours Water Regulations related Professional Development each year
- scheme members will be issued with an identity card bearing their photograph
- management of the scheme involves observers from the the DEFRA and consumer interests
- provision will be made for exchange of information between members and the scheme's management committee
- the scheme represents, for the first time in 119 years, government recognition of Institute Registered Plumbers
- the scheme will raise standards of plumbing while also raising public confidence in plumbers.

The Institute of Plumbing & Heating Engineering (IPHE)
64 Station Lane, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6NB
Tel +44 (0)1708 472791 Fax +44 (0)1708 448987
Email info@iphe.org.uk Website www.iphe.org.uk





Approved Contractor Person Scheme Application Form

Application for membership of the Institute of Plumbing & Heating Engineering's Approved Contractor Person Scheme, sanctioned under Regulation 1 (2) (b) of the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999.

Applicants must be individuals who are in the Fellow, Member or Associate categories of membership of the Institute and must be entered on the Register of Plumbers.

First Name(s) Surname

Address

.....

..... Post code

Tel Mobile

fax Email

IPHE membership category (i.e. Associate)

Declaration

I enclose a copy (not the original) of my Water Regulations Training Assessment Certificate from BPEC / City & Guilds (delete as applicable) or other (please state):

.....

- I understand that, as a member of the scheme, I must engage in a minimum of five hours Water Regulations related Professional Development each year.
- I will maintain public/product liability insurance at the levels required by the Institute (currently £2 million)
- I enclose two head and shoulder, passport style colour photographs of myself, taken within the last 6 months.

Signed

Name (please print)

Date

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND SIGN THIS FORM WHERE SHOWN AND RETURN TO
HEAD OFFICE WITH A COPY OF YOUR WATER REGULATIONS TRAINING
ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATE AND PHOTOGRAPHS.**