



LICENSING INFORMATION STATEMENT #10

THE CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALLS

QBCC has developed this licensing information statement to clarify the licensing requirements for the construction of retaining walls. This information statement does not replace anything contained in the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991* or the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Regulation 2003*.

Pursuant to that legislation, the construction of a retaining wall, greater than \$3,300 in value¹, constitutes 'building work'. This means the person undertaking the construction of the retaining wall is required to hold an appropriate QBCC licence as listed below. If you are required to be licensed and are not, you may not be entitled to payment and may be prosecuted by QBCC.

SITUATION	QBCC LICENSING REQUIREMENTS
Any retaining wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builder Restricted to Structural Landscaping • Structural Landscaping (Trade) – <i>'this class can only construct walls of a height that does not require engineering certification under a local law (generally 1m in height)'</i> • Builder Open • Builder Medium Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for buildings that are to a maximum of 3 storeys, but not including Type A construction on classes 4-9 buildings) • Builder Low Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for class 1 and class 10 buildings and class 2-9 buildings with a gross floor area not exceeding 2000m², but not including Type A or B construction)
Stone, rock or boulder retaining wall (dry jointed or mortar jointed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builder restricted to structural landscaping • Bricklaying and Blocklaying • Structural Landscaping (Trade) – <i>'this class can only construct walls of a height that does not require engineering certification under a local law (generally 1m in height)'</i> • Stonemasonry • Builder Open • Builder Medium Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for buildings that are to a maximum of 3 storeys, but not including Type A construction on classes 4-9 buildings) • Builder Low Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for class 1 and class 10 buildings and class 2-9 buildings with a gross floor area not exceeding 2000m², but not including Type A or B construction)

<p>Timber retaining wall</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builder restricted to structural landscaping • Carpentry • Structural Landscaping (Trade) – <i>‘this class can only construct walls of a height that does not require engineering certification under a local law (generally 1m in height)’</i> • Builder Open • Builder Medium Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for buildings that are to a maximum of 3 storeys, but not including Type A construction on classes 4-9 buildings) • Builder Low Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for class 1 and class 10 buildings and class 2-9 buildings with a gross floor area not exceeding 2000m², but not including Type A or B construction)
<p>Shot-Crete retaining / retention / stabilisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builder restricted to structural landscaping • Concreting • Foundation work (piling and anchors) • Structural Landscaping (Trade) – <i>‘this class can only construct walls of a height that does not require engineering certification under a local law (generally 1m in height)’</i> • Builder Open • Builder Medium Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for buildings that are to a maximum of 3 storeys, but not including Type A construction on classes 4-9 buildings) • Builder Low Rise – (where the retaining wall provides support for, or to, a building, only for class 1 and class 10 buildings and class 2-9 buildings with a gross floor area not exceeding 2000m², but not including Type A or B construction)

¹ Value of building work means an amount representing the reasonable cost to a consumer of having the work carried out by a licensed contractor on the basis that all building materials are to be supplied by the contractor (whether or not the work is in fact carried out by a licensed contractor on that basis).

If you require any further information or wish to apply for a licence please contact your nearest QBCC office or log onto the QBCC’s website at www.qbcc.qld.gov.au

1 st Introduced	18/5/04
Amended	19/02/10 23/03/12 15/03/13
QBCC commenced	1/12/13