

## Profiling and the Licensed Electricians Assessment (LEA)

These notes are written to provide clarification to what is meant by; “**satisfactory profile**”

in the document; **Eligibility to sit: LEP– Licensed Electricians Practice**

That document states that the named applicant is eligible to sit for the LEP because he/she

- has passed the SWP assessment; and
- has a *satisfactory profile* for the following two competencies:
  - Install/Terminate LV Cables
  - Test apparatus/Circuits

The Profiling System provides industry agreed standards to use as indicators of an apprentice's exposure to the different aspects of electrical work.

The Profiling System shows a **suggested target range** of exposure to a particular activity. It is a **guide** for RTOs in all circumstances and work environments and is not meant to be prescriptive (a set target end point).

EE-Oz has said of profiling:

*“...the Profiling system... is a monitoring tool for teachers to use, not a test instrument or checklist. They should be looking at the trend in the bars each quarter and talking with the employer and apprentice as to the trend that is emerging in the apprentice's competency development and coordinating the apprentice's exposure with the employer towards a holistic outcome across the bars.”*

*“It could be quite possible that a person may not complete all of one part of the bars, but because of the overall trend of the bars, the experience of the teacher and the on-going monitoring and dialogue of the teacher with the employer/apprentice, that the person is ready for the ...LEA. This responsibility lies entirely with the teacher/assessor.”*

Three possibilities may ensue when examining the Profiling records of an apprentice:

1. The apprentice **has achieved or is close to achieving**, the recommended exposure to the activities supporting the indicated competencies.

In conjunction with general knowledge of the apprentice and the employer, the RTO can confidently judge the apprentice to have a “satisfactory profile”, sign the LEP Statement of Achievement and hence permit them to sit for the LEP assessment.

2. The apprentice is **well away** from achieving the recommended exposure to the activities supporting the indicated competencies.

In this case the question does arise as to why this situation has been allowed to develop if there was sufficient monitoring of the apprentice's work based activity over the duration of the apprenticeship.

Nevertheless, the apprentice would be judged as having insufficient work based exposure to be eligible to sit for the LEP. The RTO would advise both the apprentice and employer as to how to remedy the situation.

3. The apprentice is in an **intermediate (difficult to judge)** position relative to the recommended exposure to the activities supporting the indicated competencies.

If other indicators of the apprentice's history do not clarify the situation, then the RTO can conduct a work evaluation practical exercise to help determine an apprentice's work based abilities. Records of these “assessments” would be kept as supporting documentation for AQTF auditing purposes to justify signing off the LEP Statement of Achievement.

Note that such assessments should only be performed when there are valid reasons for the discrepancy between achieved and recommended exposure. The assessment cannot be used as a substitute for work based experience.