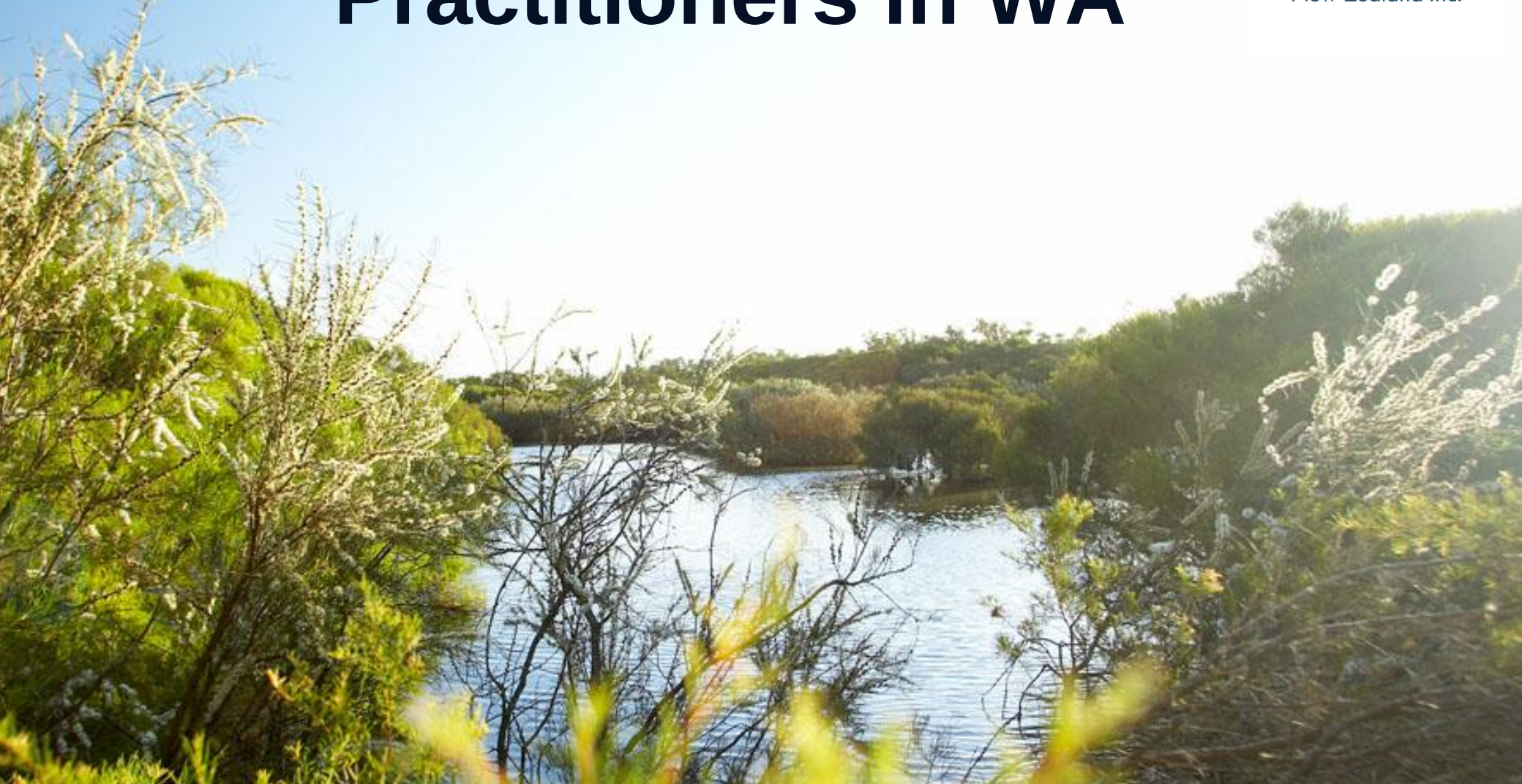




Certifying Environmental Practitioners in WA



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand Inc.





CERTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME

An Introduction to the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme

Andrew Del Marco MEIANZ CEnvP 606, 27 September 2018, Perth





CERTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME

What does it mean to **YOU** to be an
environmental **professional?**



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What do you think your **employer, clients,**
or the **general public,** expect of you
as an environmental professional?



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There are range of expectations, sometimes conflicting, of us as environmental professionals.

Demonstrate – **visible** sign of the often invisible...evidence

Commit – a public **statement** of your commitment as a professional

Ongoing – you are **adaptive** and **responsive**



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What is the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme (CEnvP)?

- CEnvP is an initiative of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ). CEnvP certifies environmental professionals as both ethical and competent
- Rigorously vets applications against stringent, industry-recognised criteria





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Where has CEnvP come from?

- The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) developed the certification scheme in 2004 specifically for environmental professionals (not just EIANZ members)
- EIANZ established the CEnvP Board under By-law 16 at the 2004 Annual General Meeting



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Why was the certification scheme created?

- Faced with increasing environmental challenges, disasters and threats, community demanded greater environmental accountability from industry and government
- Some incompetent and unethical behaviour undermined the credibility of the environment profession so a way to identify ethical and highly competent practitioners needed to be developed



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Certification vs Accreditation

There is an important difference between certification and accreditation.

- **Certification** is the formal way by which the education, training and experience of practitioners is recognised through the granting of a certificate. Candidates are generally approved for certification when they meet the standards of a profession.
- **Accreditation** is the process applied by accrediting bodies to determine and recognize whether an educational course, program or institution has met pre-determined training criteria.



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ENVIRONMENTAL PROFICIENCIES

- Environmental awareness
- Environmental ethics
- Policy and planning
- Analysis and risk assessment
- Decision making
- Professional practice
- Communication



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Where are we today?

- Formally recognised by the Australian Government and New Zealand Governments
- Heads of EPAs encourage certification and defined certification principles
 - improve confidence in quality, reliability and accountability of environmental reports provided to government
 - conform to ANZ Standard for certification
 - competencies for specialist areas
 - recertification
 - ethical and professional conduct



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Where are we today?

Five types of certification:

- General
 - Site Contamination (formerly Contaminated Land)
 - Impact Assessment
 - Ecology
 - Climate Change
- Application time averages four months





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Certification Requirements I

- A relevant environment-related degree
- Five years of full time experience in environmental practice
- Statement of Ethical Conduct
- Nomination by three respected environmental professionals who are willing to act as referees for the candidate
- Evidence in the form of referee statements (at least two), publications, citations, curriculum vitae, reports etc that the candidate is a respected, competent, ethical and active member of the profession



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Certification Requirements II

- Ongoing commitment to training and professional improvement (in the order of 100 points of training, professional improvement, service to professional practice over a two year period)
- A signed (and witnessed) statement of claim covering qualifications, experience, ethics, commitment and the accuracy of materials provided to the Certification Board
- Successful recommendation from Assessment Panel following an interview
- Successful approval from the CEnvP Board



CERTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME

EIANZ Code of Ethics & Professional Conduct

- Compliance with this Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct is central to sound environmental practice and the credibility of the profession, and is required for persons who are members of the EIANZ and also for Certified Environmental Practitioners.

CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
ADOPTED AT THE EIANZ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 24 OCTOBER 2012

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IS CENTRAL TO SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE AND THE CREDIBILITY OF THE PROFESSION, AND IS REQUIRED FOR PERSONS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE EIANZ AND ALSO FOR CERTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONERS.

Environmental practitioners are committed to practice in accordance with this Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, and accept personal accountability for professional conduct. This Code commits environmental practitioners to:

PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES

- (a) Advocate the integrity of the natural environment and the health, safety and welfare of the human community and future generations as being central to environmental practice;
- (b) Advocate the protection of environmental values and the mitigation of environmental harm, based on objective scientific and technical knowledge;
- (c) Advocate and undertake environmental practice in accordance with principles of environmental stewardship, resilience and sustainability, with a view to achieving no net loss of environmental values and preferably a net gain, and to an appropriate standard.

DEMONSTRATE INTEGRITY

- (a) Be honest and trustworthy, avoid misrepresentation or obfuscation, distinguish between fact and opinion, and state opinions which are honestly held;
- (b) Respect obligations of confidentiality and privacy;
- (c) Be objective, seek peer review and other quality assurance of work as appropriate, and accept as well as give honest and fair criticism when required;
- (d) Avoid or manage conflicts of interest, and make all relevant parties aware when there is such a conflict.

REPRESENT AND PROMOTE THE PROFESSION

- (a) Promote and provide leadership in the adoption of high standards of environmental practice;
- (b) Contribute to the development and maintenance of knowledge about environmental practice and standards of professional competence;
- (c) Support others in their development as environmental practitioners;
- (d) Do not advertise or represent services, or those of another, in a manner that may bring discredit to the profession.

PRACTICE COMPETENTLY

- (a) Provide services at an appropriate standard as required to achieve or foster optimal environmental outcomes;
- (b) Only practice and offer services in functional areas and specialisations in which one is appropriately qualified, experienced and competent;
- (c) Comply with all applicable governing laws and statutory requirements, and actively discourage non-compliance by others;
- (d) Promote the involvement of all stakeholders and the community in decisions and processes that may impact on environmental values;
- (e) Respect the contribution of other professionals and collaborate in multi-disciplinary approaches;
- (f) Be diligent in practice, providing accurate, up-to-date, objective, impartial and unbiased advice;
- (g) Acknowledge data and information sourced from others, and be accountable for data collected, analyses performed and conclusions drawn or plans developed as part of an assignment;
- (h) Be prepared to explain work and conclusions drawn, and provide the evidence on which the work is based;
- (i) Continuously update and develop skills through relevant professional development as a basis for competent practice.

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<http://www.eianz.org/aboutus/eianz-code-of-ethics>



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Certification renewal

- There are three compulsory components of continued certification:

CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Certified practitioners must complete 100 points of CPD every two years

CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

EIANZ CODE OF ETHICS

Certified practitioners must be in compliance with the Code

CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

RENEWAL FEES

Practitioners must be up-to-date with their renewal fees



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Benefits of certification

- For the Environmental practitioner, CEnvP certification can:
 - Provide formal recognition of one's competence to perform environmental work throughout Australia and New Zealand
 - Facilitate easier access to interesting and challenging career opportunities
 - Encourage ongoing upgrading of skills
 - Provide career opportunities which may lead to promotions and higher wages
 - Provide easier access to professional indemnity insurance
 - Provide credibility and accountability in the profession



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Benefits - Employers

- For Employers, CEnvP certification can:
 - Provide an easier means of evaluating the competence of an employee or prospective employee.
 - Decrease costs associated with the employee selection process.
 - Provide greater assurance that competent employees are hired.
 - Demonstrate a commitment to responsible environmental management.
 - Improve access to capital and insurance.
 - Reduce incidents that result in environmental liability.
 - Assist in providing a due diligence defense.



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Benefits - Environment Industry

- For the Environment Industry, CEnvP certification can:
 - Assist in improving the image of the industry.
 - Increase public awareness of and trust in the environmental profession.
 - Assist in ensuring that Australia and New Zealand maintains a competent environmental workforce.
 - Assist in the harmonisation of State and national standards
 - Assist in promoting the export of professional practice in the environmental sector



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More information

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