



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for MSL975024 Locate, record and collect forensic samples

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSL975024A Locate record and collect forensic samples

Performance Evidence

Evidence of competence in this unit must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria, and include demonstration of:

- safely locating, recording, collecting, packaging, transporting and storing forensic samples and evidence on at least three (3) different occasions
- using close observation skills to locate samples and evidence
- using chemical, optical and physical evidence and sample detection methods
- accurately interpreting and applying evidence and sample collection methods
- keeping accurate records
- communicating any problems to a supervisor or industry professional using current and appropriate terminology
- maintaining security, integrity and traceability of samples, evidence, sub-samples and documentation
- completing chain of custody forms according to judicial and workplace requirements
- storing and transporting samples according to judicial and workplace protocols
- following workplace safety precautions and hazard control measures.

Knowledge Evidence

Must provide evidence that demonstrates knowledge of:

- terminology and principles of locating, recording, collecting, storing and transporting samples and evidence
- legislative, regulatory, policy, procedural and quality system requirements for the location, collection, preservation, security, continuity and disposal of samples and evidence (exhibits)
- potential limitations of own specialist knowledge and when to seek advice from other services
- services available to assist in the documenting, collection, preservation and continuity of forensic evidence and samples
- relevant hazards, and work health and safety (WHS) requirements.

Assessment Conditions

- Judgment of competence must be based on holistic assessment of the evidence. Assessment methods must confirm consistency of performance over time, rather than a single assessment event.
- This unit of competency is to be assessed in the workplace or a simulated workplace environment. A simulated workplace environment must reflect realistic operational workplace conditions that cover all aspects of workplace performance, including the environment, task skills, task management skills, contingency management skills and job role environment skills.
- Foundation skills are integral to competent performance of the unit and should not be assessed separately.
- Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.
- Knowledge evidence may be collected concurrently with performance evidence or through an independent process, such as workbooks, written assessments or interviews (provided a record is kept in each case).
- Holistic assessment methods include:
 - review of job sheets or journal of activities completed by the candidate
 - review of workplace documentation completed by the candidate
 - feedback from peers, supervisors and industry professionals about the candidate's ability to reliably locate, record and collect forensic samples
 - observation of candidate collecting a range of samples and evidence
 - oral or written questioning of required knowledge, such as judicial protocols, traceability, sample identification and collection methods.
- Access is required to instruments, equipment, materials, workplace documentation, procedures and specifications associated with this unit, including, but not limited to:
 - workplace procedures and standard methods
 - sample containers
 - containers for transporting samples.
- Assessors must satisfy the assessor competency requirements that are in place at the time of the assessment as set by the VET regulator.
- The assessor must demonstrate both technical competence and currency.
- Technical competence can be demonstrated through:
 - relevant VET or other qualification/Statement of Attainment AND/OR
 - relevant workplace experience
- Currency can be demonstrated through:
 - performing the competency being assessed as part of current employment OR
 - having consulted with a laboratory about performing the competency being assessed within the last twelve months.

Links

MSA Training Package Implementation Guides - <http://mskills.org.au/training-packages/info/>