



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

# **CUVOPA406A Identify the requirements for establishing an opal-cutting workshop**

**Release: 1**

## CUVOPA406A Identify the requirements for establishing an opal-cutting workshop

### Modification History

Version	Comments
CUVOPA406A	This version first released with <i>CUV11 Visual Arts, Craft and Design Training Package version 1.0</i>

### Unit Descriptor

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to identify the requirements for establishing an opal-cutting workshop.

### Application of the Unit

People who set up their own opal-cutting workshop apply the skills and knowledge in this unit.

Where appropriate the outcomes of this unit could be contextualised to apply to other gemstones.

### Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of endorsement.

### Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

### Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

<b>Element</b>	<b>Performance Criteria</b>
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.</i>

## Elements and Performance Criteria

<p>1. Assess workshop requirements</p>	<p>1.1 Decide what the workshop is to be used for and how many people will be working there                      1.2 Determine the consumables, <i>fixtures and fittings</i> needed for an opal-cutting workshop                      1.3 Identify essential and desirable <i>machinery</i> needed for a cutting and polishing workshop                      1.4 Assess the <i>OHS issues</i> for an opal-cutting and polishing workshop and determine control measures required                      1.5 Determine the environmental protection requirements and plan compliance                      1.6 Assess the specifications for the building needed for an opal-cutting workshop, including size, <i>electrical fittings</i>, and <i>water and drainage requirements</i></p>
<p>2. Identify suppliers of machinery and consumables and establish set-up cost</p>	<p>2.1 Identify <i>manufacturers and suppliers/agents</i> for new and second-hand lapidary equipment                      2.2 Compare prices and advantages and disadvantages of new and second-hand equipment, and the <i>costs</i> in obtaining machinery and equipment                      2.3 List suppliers of consumables and compare prices                      2.4 Obtain estimates of the cost of <i>services</i> required to set up the workshop</p>
<p>3. Investigate resources needed to set up the workshop</p>	<p>3.1 Develop a draft budget and cash flow for the first year of operation                      3.2 Use appropriate research techniques to investigate <i>sources of finance</i> and repayment schedules</p>
<p>4. Document the information</p>	<p>4.1 Record the information gained                      4.2 Organise the information so that it can be used as the basis for making a decision on whether to proceed with the option to set up an opal cutting and polishing business</p>

## Required Skills and Knowledge

*This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.*

### Required skills

- communication skills to:
  - source information from suppliers about costs and equipment requirements
  - obtain estimates from service providers and financial institutions
  - document and access information on opal-cutting equipment, manufacturers and the setting up of an opal-cutting workshop
- initiative and enterprise skills to:
  - obtain estimates
  - develop draft budgets and cash flow
  - investigate sources of finance
- planning and organising skills to record information and organise it in a way that can be used as a basis for decision making
- problem-solving skills to identify contingencies, such as OHS issues and rectify them
- numeracy skills to develop draft budgets, cash flow and price materials
- self-management skills to deliver information on time to appropriate persons for review and decision making
- basic research skills, including internet searching skills.

### Required knowledge

- opal-cutting workshop requirements
- manufacturers and suppliers of opal-cutting equipment
- basic cost analysis, business principles and business planning.

## Evidence Guide

*The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.*

<b>Overview of assessment</b>	
<b>Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit</b>	<p>Evidence of the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify the requirements for setting up and financing an opal-cutting workshop</li> <li>• organise the information in such a way that it can be used as a basis for decision making.</li> </ul>
<b>Context of and specific resources for assessment</b>	<p>Assessment must ensure access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• various reference materials</li> <li>• internet</li> <li>• lapidary magazines and catalogues.</li> </ul>
<b>Method of assessment</b>	<p>A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate for this unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• observation of processes and procedures</li> <li>• oral and/or written questioning on underpinning knowledge and skills</li> <li>• review of portfolios of evidence</li> <li>• review of third-party workplace reports of on-the-job performance by candidate.</li> </ul> <p>Assessment methods should closely reflect workplace demands (e.g. literacy) and the needs of particular groups (e.g. people with disabilities, and people who may have literacy or numeracy difficulties, such as speakers of languages other than English, remote communities and those with interrupted schooling).</p>
<b>Guidance information for assessment</b>	<p>Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry sector workplace and job role is recommended.</p>

## Range Statement

*The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.*

<p><b><i>Fixtures and fittings</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• air conditioning</li> <li>• benches</li> <li>• chairs</li> <li>• chemical cupboards</li> <li>• cupboards</li> <li>• floor coverings</li> <li>• safes</li> <li>• security requirements, such as door and window locks alarms</li> <li>• shelving</li> <li>• telephone</li> <li>• windows and doors.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Machinery</i></b> and equipment may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bench grinder 6" or 8"</li> <li>• combination units for grind, sand and polish</li> <li>• diamond grinding, sanding and polishing units</li> <li>• drum or belt sanders</li> <li>• dry sanding units</li> <li>• free-hand saws</li> <li>• grinding arbours with belt drive</li> <li>• leather or felt polishing units</li> <li>• multi-blade saws</li> <li>• slab saws</li> <li>• trim saws</li> <li>• ventilation system and filters</li> <li>• wet sanding units.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>OHS issues</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• appropriate clothing and footwear</li> <li>• chemicals</li> <li>• cleanliness of work areas</li> <li>• dangers of using electricity and water in the same environment</li> <li>• dust and fumes</li> <li>• ergonomics</li> <li>• fire extinguishers</li> <li>• first aid kit</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• guarding for machinery</li><li>• lighting</li><li>• naked flames</li><li>• noise</li><li>• safety glasses</li><li>• ventilation.</li></ul>
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<p><b><i>Electrical fittings</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cabling and machine wiring</li> <li>• exhaust fans and dust extraction</li> <li>• hardwired control and fuse box</li> <li>• lighting primary and secondary</li> <li>• switches and safety stops</li> <li>• waterproof power outlets.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Water and drainage requirements</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hosing to machinery</li> <li>• sludge traps</li> <li>• splash guards</li> <li>• taps</li> <li>• water drainage and disposal</li> <li>• water supply, mains or gravity fed</li> <li>• water trays.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Manufacturers and suppliers/agents</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ashworths Pty Ltd</li> <li>• Contempo Lapidary</li> <li>• Covington</li> <li>• Des Liston Lapidary</li> <li>• Diamond Pacific</li> <li>• Embel Lapidary</li> <li>• Gemmasta</li> <li>• Gemtec</li> <li>• Graves</li> <li>• Lapcraft</li> <li>• Raytech</li> <li>• Robilt</li> <li>• Shelleys Lapidary Supplies</li> <li>• T. F. Lapidary</li> <li>• Thompson’s Lapidary</li> <li>• Western Lapidary Supplies.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Costs</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bank charges</li> <li>• currency exchange</li> <li>• duty or excise</li> <li>• freight</li> <li>• GST</li> <li>• initial cost of machine</li> <li>• insurance</li> <li>• ongoing maintenance</li> <li>• postage</li> <li>• set-up costs.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Services</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• electrician</li> <li>• plumbing.</li> </ul>

<i>Sources of finance</i> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• banks</li><li>• credit unions</li><li>• partnerships</li><li>• private loans.</li></ul>
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## Unit Sector(s)

Opal cutting and polishing