



Australian Government

DEFPSY002 Conduct a mental health screening interview

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the DEF Defence Training Package.

Application

This unit specifies the skills and knowledge required to conduct a mental health screening interview in the Australian Defence Force.

It includes preparing and conducting a mental health screening interview, and completing all post-screen administration.

This unit applies to persons working as psychologists in the Defence but may be applicable to anyone in this field of work.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to.

Persons undertaking this unit work in a broad range of contexts under limited supervision and perform a broad range of tasks.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable

Competency Field

Psychological Support

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

- 1 Prepare for a mental health screening interview**
 - 1.1** Obtain and prepare documents in accordance with administrative procedures
 - 1.2** Prepare a verbal brief for clients in accordance with activity requirements
 - 1.3** Conduct psychological screening questionnaire with client and accurately score
 - 1.4** Review psychological record prior to screening interview
- 2 Conduct a mental health screening interview**
 - 2.1** Use screening interview tool as a guide and record client responses in accordance with activity requirements
 - 2.2** Use appropriate techniques to encourage an honest exchange of information
 - 2.3** Apply relevant principles to establish an environment of trust and mutual respect
 - 2.4** Use effective communication techniques to constructively handle negative responses
 - 2.5** Observe and note client behaviour for further exploration
 - 2.6** Use questioning techniques to determine moods, emotions and areas of client concern
 - 2.7** Record key issues and client concerns in accordance with activity requirements
 - 2.8** Respond to clients in crisis, in accordance with operational procedures
 - 2.9** Discuss considered referral options and screening outcomes with client
 - 2.10** Discuss education and support options with client
 - 2.11** Conduct interview appropriately, demonstrating sincerity, courtesy and friendliness, in accordance with operational procedures
- 3 Perform post-selection activity administration**
 - 3.1** Gather and store psychology documents in accordance with organisational procedures

- 3.2 Report selection activity outcomes to relevant stakeholders, as required
- 3.3 Undertake appropriate disposal of used scoring instruments in accordance with operational procedures

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

Range is restricted to essential operating conditions and any other variables essential to the work environment.

Non-essential conditions may be found in the Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to DEFPS002 Conduct a mental health screening interview.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=6bdbab1e-11ed-4bc9-9cba-9e1a55d4e4a9>