



**Australian Government**

# **Assessment Requirements for HLTAHW039 Monitor early childhood growth and development**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for HLT AHW039 Monitor early childhood growth and development

## Modification History

Not applicable.

## Performance Evidence

The candidate must show evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the job role.

There must be evidence that the candidate has:

- monitored the growth and development of at least three children aged birth to 5-years-old by:
  - using effective communication strategies which demonstrate cultural appropriateness and safety to engage with the families and/or carers of each child
  - explaining the purpose and promoting the benefits of screening to clients and parents/carer
  - taking a detailed history, eliciting relevant information from the child, carer or family and documentation
  - using screening tools and equipment in accordance with organisational protocols
  - making referrals for assessment based on parental concerns and any observed variations
  - initiating appropriate actions in response to growth and development screening results, in line with organisational procedures and protocols, for presenting health conditions
  - explaining concepts related to growth and development including:
    - o nutrition – including breastfeeding
    - o physical activity
    - o environment
  - informing parents/caregivers about age-appropriate milestones of growth and development including;
    - o fine and gross motor skills
    - o emotional, social and behavioural development
    - o language and communication
  - documenting outcomes of all assessment, treatment decisions and monitoring according to organisation procedures and policies and in regard to confidentiality of the clients and families.

## Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively do the task outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage the task and manage contingencies in the context of the identified work role

This includes knowledge of:

- core principles of child development and broader knowledge of current research around child development
- the impact of contextual factors that influence and challenge a child's physical, emotional and psychological development
- broad understanding of the domains of child development
- developmental milestones within specific age groups
- indicators of abnormal or 'red flags' within the age-specific developmental domains
- differences among children in stage of development, needs, interests and strengths when providing services to children
- application of standard universal precautions
- past and present growth and development trends within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population
- maternal history and issues related to pregnancy and childbirth
- differences in growth patterns for breastfed and formula-fed children, preterm infants and infants with a disability
- assessment and management of failure to thrive and growth faltering
- child health promotion strategies including:
  - immunisations
  - disease prevention and hygiene
  - mental health promotion
  - protective behaviors
  - early learning promotion
  - exercise and physical wellbeing
- organisation policies and procedures relating to child health and wellbeing assessment, planning and implementing health care.
- 

## Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated working:

- in a health service or centre
- as part of, and under the supervision of, a multidisciplinary primary health care team
- with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clients and communities.

In addition, simulations and scenarios must be used where the full range of contexts and situations cannot be provided in the workplace or may occur only rarely. These are situations relating to emergency or unplanned procedures where assessment in these circumstances would be unsafe or is impractical.

Simulated assessment environments must simulate the real-life working environment where these skills and knowledge would be performed, with all the relevant equipment and resources of that working environment. This may include tools and equipment associated with child growth and development screening and monitoring.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

Assessment must be undertaken by a workplace assessor who has expertise in this unit of competency and who is:

- an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Worker

or:

- accompanied by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who is a recognised member of the community with experience in primary health care.

## **Links**

Companion volumes from the CS&HISC website - <http://www.cshisc.com.au>