



Australian Government

SITHCCC401 Produce specialised food items

Release 1

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Modification History

The version details of this endorsed unit of competency set are in the table below. The latest information is at the top.

| Version | Comments |
|---------|--|
| 1.0 | <p>N</p> <p>Replaces but is not equivalent to SITHCCC023B Select, prepare and serve specialised food items.</p> <p>Title simplified. Unit structure made consistent across all cooking units. Re-worked Elements, Performance Criteria, Required Skills and Knowledge to better articulate content. Any 'must' statements in Range moved to Required Knowledge and Critical aspects for assessment. Menu planning and promotional content removed as it does not necessarily apply at this level, and is covered in the following units SITHKOP302 Plan and cost basic menus and SITHKOP501 Design and cost menus.</p> |

Unit Descriptor

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to prepare and cook food items that are more unusual in nature following standard recipes. It requires the ability to select and prepare ingredients and to use relevant equipment and specialised cookery methods.

Application of the Unit

This unit applies to cooks who work in hospitality and catering organisations. Because the nature of food items is specialised, it may apply to chefs and cooks with advanced skills or with skills in very particular styles of cooking.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

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

Pre-Requisites

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| This unit must be assessed after the following prerequisite unit: | |
| SITXFSA101 | Use hygienic practices for food safety |

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency. 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.

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|--|---|
| 1. Select ingredients. | 1.1 Confirm <i>food production requirements</i> from food preparation list and standard recipes. 1.2 Calculate ingredient amounts according to requirements. 1.3 Identify and select ingredients for <i>specialised food items</i> from stores according to recipe, quality, freshness and stock rotation requirements. |
| 2. Select, prepare and use equipment. | 2.1 Select equipment of correct type and size. 2.2 Safely assemble and ensure cleanliness of equipment before use. 2.3 Use equipment safely and hygienically according to manufacturer instructions. |
| 3. Portion and prepare ingredients. | 3.1 Sort and assemble ingredients according food production sequencing. 3.2 Weigh and measure ingredients and create portions according to recipe. 3.3 Minimise waste and store reusable by-products. |
| 4. Cook specialised food items. | 4.1 Select and use <i>preparation and cookery methods</i> for specialised food items. 4.2 Prepare and use accompaniments suited to dishes. 4.3 Follow standard recipes and make <i>food quality adjustments</i> within scope of responsibility. |
| 5. Present and store specialised food items. | 5.1 Present dishes attractively on appropriate serviceware. 5.2 Add dips, sauces and garnishes according to standard recipes. 5.3 Visually evaluate dish and <i>adjust presentation</i> . 5.4 Store dishes in appropriate <i>environmental conditions</i> . |

Required Skills and Knowledge

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

Required skills

- initiative and enterprise skills to minimise wastage
- literacy skills to:
 - read and interpret food preparation lists, standard recipes, date code and stock rotation labels and manufacturer instructions for equipment
 - write notes on recipe requirements and calculations
- numeracy skills to:
 - calculate the number of portions
 - weigh and measure ingredients
 - determine cooking times and temperatures
- planning and organising skills to efficiently sequence the stages of food preparation and production
- problem-solving skills to:
 - evaluate quality of ingredients and finished dishes and make adjustments to ensure a quality product
 - adjust taste, texture and appearance of food products according to identified deficiencies
- self-management skills to manage own speed, timing and productivity
- technology skills to use food preparation and cooking equipment.

Required knowledge

- culinary terms and trade names for ingredients used in the relevant specialised area
- characteristics of relevant specialised items:
 - appearance and presentation
 - freshness and other quality indicators
 - historical and cultural derivations
 - nutritional value
 - service style
 - taste
 - texture
- contents of stock date codes and rotation labels
- preparation and cookery methods for the relevant specialised items
- equipment used to produce specialised dishes:
 - essential features and functions
 - safe operational practices
- storage of products:
 - correct environmental conditions to ensure food safety

- appropriate methods to optimise shelf life.

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.

Overview of assessment

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Evidence of the ability to:

- produce a range of specialised food items that require the application of specialised cookery methods
- produce food for multiple customers within commercial time constraints
- integrate knowledge of:
 - quality indicators for specialised food items
 - cookery methods for different items
 - features, functions and safe use of food preparation equipment
 - food safety practices for handling and storing one or more specialised food items.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment must ensure use of:

- an operational commercial kitchen with the fixtures, large and small equipment and workplace documentation defined in the Assessment Guidelines; this can be a:
 - real industry workplace
 - simulated industry environment such as a training kitchen servicing customers
- industry-realistic ratios of kitchen staff to customers
- food preparation lists and standard recipes
- a variety of commercial ingredients.

Method of assessment

A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate for this unit:

- direct observation of the individual preparing for and producing specialised food items
- evaluation of the taste and visual appeal of specialised food items prepared by the individual
- projects that allow assessment of the individual's ability to produce a variety of specialised food items for different occasions
- use of visual and taste recognition exercises so the individual can identify ingredient and product

characteristics

- written or oral questioning to assess knowledge of culinary terms, quality indicators for food items, equipment, cookery methods and appropriate environmental storage conditions
- review of portfolios of evidence and third-party workplace reports of on-the-job performance by the individual.

Guidance information for assessment

The assessor should design integrated assessment activities to holistically assess this unit with other units relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role, for example:

- SITHCCC307 Prepare food to meet special dietary requirements
- SITHKOP402 Develop menus for special dietary requirements.

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.

Food production requirements may include:

- deadlines
- portion control
- quantities to be produced
- special customer requests
- special dietary requirements.

Specialised food items may include:

- aquatic plants, such as seaweeds
- aromatics, flavourings, spices and herbs
- bush foods and native Australian ingredients
- commodities from ethnic cuisines and cultural traditions such as Mexican, Asian and Middle Eastern
- fruits, vegetables, flowers and salad items
- fungi
- meats, poultry and game other than lamb, beef, pork and chicken
- offal and specialist meat products
- preserves, condiments and accompaniments
- seeds and nuts
- specialist cheeses and dairy products
- unusual fish, shellfish and other foods from salt or fresh water.

Specialised ***preparation and cookery methods*** may include:

- cooking on salt,
- earth oven cooking
- hanging of meat, poultry and game
- marinating and coating
- molecular gastronomy
- preserving:
 - drying
 - salting
 - pickling
 - smoking
- tenderising
- using special ovens and cooking utensils.

Food quality adjustments may relate to:

- taste:
 - bitter

- salty
- sour
- sweet
- umami
- temperature
- texture:
 - clean
 - creamy
 - crispy
 - crunchy
 - fibrous
 - moist
 - mousse
 - rich
 - slippery
 - smooth
 - velvety.

To *adjust presentation* may involve:

- changing accompaniments and garnishes to maximise eye appeal:
 - balance
 - colour
 - contrast
- changing plated food for practicality of:
 - customer consumption
 - service
- wiping drips or spills.

Environmental conditions relates to appropriate:

- atmosphere
- humidity
- light
- packaging
- temperature
- use of containers
- ventilation.

Unit Sector(s)

Hospitality

Competency Field

Commercial Cookery and Catering