



Australian Government

AHCASW301 Protect places of Aboriginal cultural significance

Release: 1

AHCASW301 Protect places of Aboriginal cultural significance

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to protect places of cultural significance to Aboriginal people. It requires following Aboriginal cultural protocols and details the specific cultural, gender and kinship sensitivities of working in Aboriginal communities and on Country with diverse cultural requirements.

This unit applies to those whose work on Country and in cultural keeping places and includes protecting cultural places, sites and objects often in co-operation with a range of stakeholders and with reference to Aboriginal communities and/or line management. The unit involves and requires a high level of awareness and experience with Aboriginal culture and communities and the need to observe Aboriginal cultural protocols. This unit is also applicable to the work of repatriation workers and anthropologists.

This unit applies to all Aboriginal sites workers. However, cultural beliefs and practices vary across locations and communities and in some situations non-Aboriginal learners may not be able to access the cultural knowledge or materials required to achieve competency in this unit, due to restrictions that are applied to non-Aboriginal people gaining access to cultural knowledge, material or sites. In these situations the Registered Training Organisation will be required to make alternative arrangements for learners that are still consistent with the delivery and assessment requirements for this unit.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

AHCILM306 Follow Aboriginal cultural protocols

Unit Sector

Aboriginal Sites Work (ASW)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Identify and communicate with key stakeholders	1.1 Identify appropriate persons within communities who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the cultural significance of Aboriginal places and heritage 1.2 Develop working relationships with key stakeholders that assist in the management of culturally significant places 1.3 Develop communication approaches that place Aboriginal cultural protocols and values at the forefront and accommodate stakeholder concerns and interests 1.4 Seek and obtain views on the way in which the cultural significance and resource can be conserved and used 1.5 Report feedback to management for operational planning processes
2. Define cultural significance	2.1 Ensure cultural knowledge holders inform the decision-making process to determine the cultural significance of places 2.2 Acknowledge and respect traditional Aboriginal knowledge, practices, rights and responsibilities in managing Country and environment 2.3 Determine the Aboriginal beliefs embedded in a place of cultural significance 2.4 Recognise the embodiment of cultural significance in the place itself, its fabric, natural resources, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects 2.5 Assess cultural significance 2.6 Document cultural significance in accordance with Community permissions
3. Identify threats to Aboriginal cultural places	3.1 Identify threats to culturally significant places, both external and internal to the area under consideration 3.2 Observe, describe and record details of evidence of land degradation using standard industry and Indigenous terminology and according to Community permissions 3.3 Participate in a risk assessment of all threats to determine potential impact on sites and associated cultural landscape 3.4 Identify appropriate protection or conservation measures to control potential and actual threats
4. Conserve significance	4.1 Use conservation policies and plans along with stakeholder views to participate in planning for ongoing conservation actions 4.2 Implement conservation activities in culturally sensitive ways,

Element	Performance criteria
	and in accordance with Burra Charter guidelines and enterprise, Community and legislative requirements 4.3 Apply safe and environmentally sustainable work practices 4.4 Obtain resources for conservation and restoration activities, along with any associated ceremonial or cultural activity

Foundation Skills

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

Range of Conditions

Unit Mapping Information

This unit is equivalent to AHCASW301A Protect places of Aboriginal cultural significance.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCASW301 Protect places of Aboriginal cultural significance

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must be assessed on their ability to integrate and apply the performance requirements of this unit in a workplace setting. Performance must be demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

The candidate must provide evidence that they can:

- identify appropriate cultural authorities for a Community, place or for a site
- develop working relationships with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal stakeholders in cultural sites
- canvass views in determining the cultural significance and heritage value and preservation issues of an Aboriginal cultural site
- contribute to planning for the protection of an Aboriginal cultural site including identifying resources required and submissions to be completed
- observe Aboriginal cultural protocols when working with stakeholders and land managers
- identify threats to Aboriginal site and measures to mitigate and manage the risk of damaging incidents or loss of cultural integrity
- identify natural resources and how they relate to cultural protocol, spirituality, art, environment, values, beliefs and lore/law
- identify cultural rights and responsibilities when using Community knowledge, information and material
- identify groups to be consulted in relation to owners or custodians of cultural and Community knowledge, information and material
- use Aboriginal names and standard industry terminology appropriate to the task
- apply work health and safety practices in the context of own work
- apply appropriate sustainability practices in the context of own work.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- Community's history, cultural values and interpersonal and Community protocols related to the place

- authentic and authoritative sources for Aboriginal cultural information, material and expression able to be accessed and shared
- industry, organisational and enterprise policies and procedures for conservation of places of cultural significance
- key concepts of Burra Charter and Guidelines
- key concepts of Cultural and Heritage Legislation and National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) legislation relevant to the protection of Aboriginal significant places.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment must comply with Community protocols and be supported by Elders and Custodians of Country.

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs.

Links

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