



Australian Government

AHCASW305 Work with Aboriginal ceremonial secret sacred materials

Release: 1

AHCASW305 Work with Aboriginal ceremonial secret sacred materials

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to develop an awareness of the protocols involved in Aboriginal culture as they relate to individuals and communities, specifically in relation to materials with restrictions on access for cultural reasons.

The unit covers Community cultural processes including the need to identify the appropriate persons when approaching a Community and the cultural and social rules associated with that task.

This unit applies to following Aboriginal cultural protocols when coming into contact and working with cultural materials defined as Aboriginal ceremonial secret sacred objects. The unit applies to working with this material on Country and off Country where rules apply to limited access to the material for cultural and ceremonial reasons. 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. Conduct background research and consultation with Traditional Owners, Community, Cultural Managers/Knowledge holders	1.1 Confirm traditional ownership of cultural material and objects and consult appropriate Owners or Cultural Managers and Communities 1.2 Identify gender requirements for consultations, handling of and access to materials according to Aboriginal cultural protocols 1.3 Consult with Traditional Owner/s, Community groups and experts to determine suitable holding for materials not authorised for general exhibition 1.4 Obtain permissions from cultural authorities for access and use of Aboriginal secret, sacred and ceremonial materials 1.5 Consult with Community to determine culturally appropriate handling of material and any limitations on access to materials 1.6 Demonstrate confidentiality and neutrality in consultations and dealings with Traditional Owners and Cultural Managers
2. Handle Aboriginal secret sacred cultural material	2.1 Allow for and carry out any required Ceremony and procedure associated with seeing, handling or moving the material 2.2 Identify, move, store, maintain and return cultural material according to Aboriginal cultural requirements and enter into agreements 2.3 Note aspects of cultural material requiring repair or attention and pass onto supervisor or person with relevant expertise 2.4 Communicate specific Aboriginal cultural requirements to colleagues 2.5 Select and use appropriate handling and moving equipment according to safe work practices and to protect sacred and ceremonial material 2.6 Adhere to cultural restrictions and limitations on secret, sacred and ceremonial material 2.7 Demonstrate handling cultural material in a manner that protects individual items, assists efficient loading and unloading processes if moving, and in accordance with safe work practices 2.8 Handle, move, store and manage secret sacred cultural material in accordance with Burra Charter guidelines and legislative requirements
3. Contribute to documenting a generational succession plan for	3.1 Discuss options for inheritance of ownership with Traditional Owners and/or Elders 3.2 Participate in documenting the process, guidelines and timeframes agreeable to Traditional Owners and Cultural Managers for

Element	Performance criteria
passing on ownership of secret sacred material	handover of ownership, control and access to secret sacred materials

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 AHCASW305A Work with Aboriginal ceremonial secret sacred materials.

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 AHCASW305 Work with Aboriginal ceremonial secret sacred materials

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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 cultural authority for ceremony in a particular area or site
- consult effectively with Traditional Owners and relevant Community representatives about the handling, access to and display of cultural material
- observe Aboriginal cultural protocols and follow collection management practices and industry cultural requirements when moving, storing, displaying and maintaining cultural material
- select and use handling, storage and transport systems in accordance with Aboriginal cultural protocols
- create, maintain and store records of the process, guidelines and timeframes for handover of ownership, control and access to secret sacred materials
- use standard industry terminology and Aboriginal names for sites and materials, as appropriate
- apply work health and safety practices in the context of own work.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- issues that frame the development of cultural protocols
- Community Aboriginal history, cultural values and interpersonal and Community protocols
- authentic and authoritative sources for Aboriginal cultural information, material and expression able to be accessed and shared
- ownership relationships for secret, sacred material
- content of contracts and confidentiality agreements applicable to working with ceremonial secret sacred materials

- organisational procedures and guidelines for working with ceremonial secret sacred materials
- Burra Charter guidelines appropriate to working with Aboriginal secret sacred materials
- key concepts of Cultural and Heritage Legislation or National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) legislation relevant to working with ceremonial secret sacred materials.

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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