



Australian Government

AHCCSW305 Work with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ceremonial and sacred materials

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 9.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to develop an awareness of and apply the protocols involved in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander 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. On Country refers to the land, waterways and the sea.

This unit applies to following Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols when coming into contact and working with cultural materials defined as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ceremonial and sacred objects. The unit applies to working with this material on Country and off Country where rules apply for limited access to the material for cultural and ceremonial reasons. This unit is also applicable to the work of repatriation workers, archaeologists and anthropologists.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

AHCOCM303 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols

Unit Sector

Cultural Sites Work (CSW)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>

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1. Conduct background research and consultation with Traditional Owners, Community, Cultural Authorities/Knowledge Holders	1.1 Confirm traditional ownership of cultural material and objects, and consult appropriate Traditional Owners or Cultural Authorities and Communities 1.2 Identify gender requirements for consultations, handling of and access to materials according to 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 appropriate Cultural Authorities for access to and use of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sacred and ceremonial materials 1.5 Consult with local 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 Authorities
2. Handle Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ceremonial and sacred material	2.1 Allow for and support the carrying out of any required Ceremony and procedure associated with seeing, handling or moving the material 2.2 Note aspects of cultural material requiring repair or attention, and pass onto supervisor or person with relevant expertise 2.3 Communicate specific Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural requirements to colleagues 2.4 Select and use appropriate handling and moving equipment according to safe work practices and to protect sacred and ceremonial material 2.5 Adhere to cultural restrictions and limitations on sacred and ceremonial material 2.6 Demonstrate handling of cultural material in a manner that protects individual items, assists efficient loading and unloading processes if moving, and in accordance with safe work practices 2.7 Handle, move, store and manage ceremonial and sacred cultural material in accordance with Burra Charter guidelines and legislative requirements
3. Contribute to documenting a generational succession plan for passing on	3.1 Discuss options for inheritance of ownership with Traditional Owners and/or Elders 3.2 Comply with the requirements of Indigenous Cultural and

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ownership of sacred material	Intellectual Property principles 3.3 Participate in documenting the process, guidelines and timeframes agreeable to Traditional Owners and Cultural Authorities for handover of ownership, control and access to sacred materials

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Oral communication	Use culturally appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCCSW305 Work with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ceremonial and sacred materials	AHCASW305 Work with Aboriginal ceremonial secret sacred materials	Title updated Application updated lements and Performance Criteria revised for clarity Foundation Skills added Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions updated	Not equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCCSW305 Work with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ceremonial and sacred materials

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has worked with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ceremonial and sacred materials at least once and has:

- identified Cultural Authority for Ceremony in a particular area or site
- consulted effectively with Traditional Owners and relevant Community representatives about the handling, access to and display of cultural material
- observed cultural protocols and followed collection management practices and industry cultural requirements when moving, storing, displaying and maintaining cultural material
- selected and used handling, storage and transport systems in accordance with cultural protocols and workplace health and safety requirements
- created, maintained and stored records of the process, guidelines and timeframes for handover of ownership, control and access to ceremonial and sacred materials
- used standard industry terminology and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander names for sites and materials, as appropriate
- applied workplace health and safety practices in the context of own work.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- key principles of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property requirements, especially in relation to agreements with handover of sacred materials
- Community Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander history, cultural values and interpersonal and Community protocols
- authentic and appropriate sources for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural information, material and expression

- processes, guidelines and agreed timelines in relation to assignment and control of sacred materials
- ownership relationships for ceremonial and sacred materials
- function and operation of handling and moving equipment
- content of contracts and confidentiality agreements applicable to working with ceremonial and sacred materials
- organisational procedures and guidelines for working with ceremonial and sacred materials
- workplace health and safety processes in the organisation
- Burra Charter guidelines appropriate to working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ceremonial and sacred materials
- key concepts of Cultural and Heritage Legislation or National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) legislation relevant to working with ceremonial and sacred materials.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated on Country and/or within an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - handling and moving equipment relevant to transportation of ceremonial and sacred materials
- specifications:
 - specific legislation/codes of practice relevant to working with working with ceremonial and sacred materials
- relationships:
 - local Community Elders and/or Custodians.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. In addition, the following specific assessor requirements apply to this unit:

- 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 Elder and/or Custodian or:

- accompanied by, and/or in communication with, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who is a recognised member of the community with experience and knowledge of local cultural protocols.

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