



Australian Government

AHCOCM303 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols

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 apply Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols, including the need to identify the appropriate persons when approaching a Community and the cultural and social protocols associated with that task. Cultural landscapes and on Country refer to the land, waterways and the sea.

This unit applies to individuals working with local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community groups ensuring cultural safety is acknowledged through shared respect, meaning and knowledge. An explanation of the differences between lore and law and why both are important is available in the Implementation Guide.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

On Country Management (OCM)

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>
1. Identify Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander beliefs and cultural protocols of	1.1 Identify and document the importance of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander beliefs and the relationship of these beliefs with cultural landscapes 1.2 Recognise the richness and diversity of relationships within the

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specific Country	local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community 1.3 Recognise local language groups and kinship networks within specific Country 1.4 Acknowledge the rights of individuals within Communities and on Country to hold specific knowledge and Ceremony and responsibility for cultural sites and the cultural rules 1.5 Acknowledge the rights of individuals within Communities and on Country to hold the responsibility associated with sharing cultural knowledge
2. Identify Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Cultural Authorities for specific Country in culturally appropriate ways	2.1 Apply various approaches and resources to identify Cultural Authorities for specific Country 2.2 Identify and consult with appropriate Cultural Authorities and people within Communities 2.3 Acknowledge the cultural significance of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander objects and places 2.4 Respect and implement the provision of advice by Cultural Authorities 2.5 Support cultural Knowledge Holders in the decision-making process to determine the cultural significance of objects and places 2.6 Acknowledge and respect traditional knowledge and practices in managing Country and environment
3. Apply Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols	3.1 Identify and record key cultural protocols required for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community consultation 3.2 Acknowledge determination of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the primary source of cultural information 3.3 Select participants for and methods of consultation according to decisions made by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Cultural Authorities 3.4 Use communication approaches that prioritise Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols 3.5 Undertake participation in local Community consultation following appropriate cultural protocols
4. Recognise and administer Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait	4.1 Investigate ownership rights and intellectual property rights of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural information and material

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
Islander ownership and intellectual property rights	4.2 Seek permissions and comply with decisions from Cultural Authorities, relevant individuals and organisations 4.3 Recognise rights to control cultural heritage by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples 4.4 Apply access restrictions to cultural knowledge, information and material 4.5 Apply confidentiality measures for recording cultural information 4.6 Identify and report any infringement of copyright and Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP)
5. Access, transfer and use cultural information and material	5.1 Seek permissions from Cultural Authorities, relevant local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples and organisations 5.2 Comply with cultural restrictions, copyright, and licensing issues on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural information and material 5.3 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural requirements regarding the display, access and handling of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural information and material 5.4 Implement a process of consent for the access, transfer and use of cultural information and materials following local Community cultural protocols and key principles of ICIP
6. Use appropriate personal and social protocols	6.1 Use local cultural protocols for addressing and greeting Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples 6.2 Apply local Community cultural protocols to guide personal presentation and conduct 6.3 Use personal communication styles that reflect the cultural practice and social cues of the local Community 6.4 Maintain a flexible attitude to address cultural diversity and cross-cultural differences

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
Reading	Interpret and extract information from a range of sources
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
AHCOCM303 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols	AHCILM306 Follow Aboriginal cultural protocols	Title updated Application updated Elements 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 AHCOCM303 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols

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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 followed Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols when approaching a Community associated with a task, and has:

- identified and consulted with appropriate Cultural Authorities for a local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community, place or site
- sought permission to share cultural information, material and cultural expression
- identified groups to be consulted in relation to Owners or Custodians of cultural and Community knowledge, information and/or material
- followed protocols for consultation, research and recording information about local Communities
- applied key requirements of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP)
- involved local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities in decision-making processes
- used appropriate communication for discussion and meaning during consultation
- demonstrated respect and cultural sensitivity towards Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples' beliefs, customs, values, lore/law, ceremonies and histories.

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:

- diversity within Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities
- relationships, including immediate family, blood relatives and relatives through marriage, Community members
- cultural rights and responsibilities when seeking and using Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community knowledge, information and material
- key principles of ICIP
- free, prior, and informed consent in decision-making processes

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples' and local Community cultural values and protocols
- authentic and authoritative sources for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples' local cultural information, and material
- authentic and authoritative sources for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples' local history
- appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication methods, including:
 - questioning
 - eye contact
 - silence where appropriate
- rights and responsibilities associated with cultural knowledge, story, song, site and Ceremony
- cultural protocols and their alignment to workplace practices, personal presentation and conduct.

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
- specifications:
 - legislation/codes of practice relevant to following Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols
- 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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