



Australian Government

CSCOFM005 Protect the safety and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders

Release: 1

CSCOFM005 Protect the safety and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit was released in CSC Correctional Services Training Package release 1.0 and meets the Standards for Training Packages. This unit supersedes and is equivalent to CSCOFM302A Protect the safety and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders.

Application

This unit describes the skills required to monitor Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders in a secure facility and respond to identified risks.

This unit applies to those working in prisons, secure custodial centres and in the community where they are responsible for the supervision of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander offenders. Working as part of a coordinated team is integral to the role.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to, particularly those related to interaction with Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders.

Those undertaking this unit work with moderate support in roles involving routine tasks with a number of familiar steps.

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

Competency Field

Offender management

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Elements describe the essential outcomes	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the range of conditions section.
1. Monitor Aboriginal and	1.1 Use a range of different interpersonal strategies to build rapport

Torres Strait offenders	with offenders. 1.2 Check the background of the offender for indicators of special needs and likely risks. 1.3 Communicate conditions of court orders and the conditions of placement and offender services to offenders. 1.4 Complete reports, document all action and decisions. 1.5 Respond to concerns and incidents according to the degree of risk. 1.6 Ensure that the offender's environment is safe and healthy according to agreed standards and cultural requirements. 1.7 Supervise the offender's routine to monitor changes in mood and behaviour and potential risks. 1.8 Seek advice and support, including community and cultural support and the support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait staff, where needs are identified. 1.9 Refer the offender to specialist services or programs suitable for the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait people. 1.10 Promote and maintain the rights and responsibilities of offenders and their cultural identity.
2. Respond to identified risks to Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders	2.1 Observe and note behaviour signs that may indicate change in mood or attitude and analyse them for indicators of risk and harm. 2.2 Record changes that cause concern and report them promptly to relevant support service. 2.3 Identify people with special needs or who might be vulnerable to risk, from a range of offender information and monitor them closely according to procedures. 2.4 Assess any indications of risk or harm and respond to them according to the degree and nature of the risk and the circumstances of the offender. 2.5 Respond to incidents immediately according to procedures and in a manner designed to protect the safety and welfare of the people involved. 2.6 Communicate clear and reassuring information to the offender to address anxiety and distress and to maintain the offender's understanding of what is happening. 2.7 Communicate clear, accurate and comprehensive information to team members for risk analysis. 2.8 Support investigations of risks and collaborative teamwork.

Foundation Skills

The foundation skills demands of this unit have been mapped for alignment with the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). The following tables outline the performance levels indicated for successful attainment of the unit.

ACSF levels indicative of performance:

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Learning					Reading					Writing					Oral communication					Numeracy N/A				
Performance variables																								
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Support					Context					Text complexity					Task complexity									

Further information on ACSF and the foundation skills underpinning this unit can be found in the [Foundation Skills Guide](#)

<http://www.govskills.com.au/guides/correctional-services/foundation-skills-guide> on the GSA website.

Unit Mapping Information

Supersedes and is equivalent to CSCOFM302A Protect the safety and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=114e25cd-3a2c-4490-baae-47d68dcd2fde>

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Assessment Requirements for CSCOFM005 Protect the safety and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	These Assessment Requirements were released in CSC Correctional Services Training Package release 1.0 and meet the Standards for Training Packages. • Assessment Requirements revised

Please refer to the advice in the CSC Assessment Guide.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the candidate must demonstrate evidence of performance of the following on at least two occasions.

- checking and analysing information for assessment of risks and special needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders
- liaising with Aboriginal and Torres Strait staff and advisers
- adapting communication to address cultural barriers

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the depth of knowledge demonstrated must be appropriate to the job context of the candidate.

- organisation's policies and procedures related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders
- historical and cultural context in which contact with the justice system will affect Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders
- duty of care
- offender information system
- code of conduct
- range of specialist support services and programs available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait offenders
- indicators of risk, including:
 - trauma of imprisonment or impact of the justice system
 - stress
 - depression and withdrawal

- cultural conflict and alienation
- behaviour and attitudes
- separation from family and social support
- influence of offenders' culture and experience on their behaviour

Assessment Conditions

Evidence for assessment must be gathered over time in a range of contexts to ensure the person can achieve the unit outcome and apply the competency in different situations or environments.

Valid assessment of this unit requires a workplace environment or one that closely resembles normal work practice and replicates the range of conditions likely to be encountered by an individual working with offenders from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait background effectively as part of a coordinated team, including coping with difficulties, irregularities and changes to routine.

This unit has been identified by industry as suitable for holistic assessment with:

- CSCORG002 Communicate effectively
- CSCOFM004 Protect the safety and welfare of vulnerable offenders

Refer to advice in the [CSC Assessment Guide](#)

<http://www.govskills.com.au/guides/correctional-services/assessment-guide>.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors

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