



Australian Government

CSCOFM034 Protect the safety and welfare of offenders with a cognitive impairment

Release: 1

CSCOFM034 Protect the safety and welfare of offenders with a cognitive impairment

Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the CSC Correctional Services Training Package Release 4.0

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to supervise and protect the safety and welfare of offenders with a cognitive impairment in a custodial or community environment.

It includes accessing and maintaining current information on cognitively impaired offenders and monitoring the behaviours and needs associated with cognitive impairment to reduce the risks to offenders. It also includes identifying offenders with possible cognitive impairments that may require further assessment.

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 offenders' use of support services and referral processes.

A person undertaking this role may work in a custodial or non-custodial setting where they are responsible for the supervision of cognitively impaired offenders. They work as part of a coordinated team of correctional and specialist staff to work with offenders, their family and community.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable.

Competency Field

Offender management

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

1 Maintain knowledge of cognitive impairment

- 1.1** Identify internal and external resources to support working with offender cognitive impairment
- 1.2** Recognise indicators of possible cognitive impairment
- 1.3** Maintain and demonstrate awareness of a range of communication techniques to effectively gain information and confirm the offender's understanding
- 1.4** Reflect awareness of cognitive impairment in work practice
- 1.5** Seek support and supervision to ensure practices are evidenced based and effective for the offender

2 Establish and maintain a safe environment for offenders with a cognitive impairment

- 2.1** Recognise vulnerabilities of the offender and provide support in accordance with organisational policy and procedures
- 2.2** Communicate effectively with the offender who has a cognitive impairment
- 2.3** Take measures to protect the offender in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.4** Identify and proactively manage situations and behaviours that threaten safety of self or others
- 2.5** Identify and document immediate concerns and risk factors and report to relevant stakeholders in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.6** Support the cultural and diversity needs and individual circumstances of the offender

3 Provide support to offenders

- 3.1** Obtain offender history and information for social and emotional wellbeing assessment
- 3.2** Consult with the offender to determine their understanding of and attitude towards having a cognitive impairment

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| | 3.3 | Identify the needs and support required of the offender |
| | 3.4 | Implement strategies to maintain motivation to change and achieve identified goals |
| | 3.5 | Identify abilities and strengths of the offender and facilitate appropriate support |
| | 3.6 | Refer the offender to appropriate custodial and community supports according to their individual needs |
| 4 Monitor and document the welfare of offenders | 4.1 | Monitor and report behavioural changes of the offender |
| | 4.2 | Update offender data to enable management of possible cognitive impairment |
| | 4.3 | Adhere to organisational and legislative reporting and documentation requirements |

Foundation Skills

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

Range of Conditions

Range is restricted to essential operating conditions and any other variables essential to the work environment.

Non-essential conditions may be found in the Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This is a new unit. No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

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

Assessment Requirements for CSCOFM034 Protect the safety and welfare of offenders with a cognitive impairment

Modification History

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Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on two separate occasions and include:

- maintaining knowledge of cognitive impairment
- accessing internal and external resources
- demonstrating awareness of the potential for coexisting disorders
- reflecting awareness of cognitive impairment in work practice
- recognising indicators and vulnerabilities of cognitive impairment
- providing accurate and appropriate observations in relation to the behaviours of offenders and their support needs
- obtaining and referring to offender history and information to assist with identifying their needs and required support
- implementing strategies to address identified needs and required support
- identifying and managing situations and behaviours that threaten safety of self or others
- providing supervision and management of offenders based on assessed risk
- taking measures within scope of role to protect the safety and welfare of offenders
- communicating effectively with offenders who have a cognitive impairment
- adhering to organisational and legislative reporting and documentation requirements
- implementing strategies to increase motivation to change relevant to the needs of offenders.

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- organisational policy, regulatory and legislative requirements
- internal and external resources available to maintain awareness of cognitive impairment
- external peak support and funding services
- duty of care
- rights of offenders
- strategies for supporting and managing offenders with a cognitive impairment
- causes of cognitive impairment
- characteristics, indicators and associated behaviours of cognitive impairment

- possible coexisting disorders and conditions
- relationship between cognitive impairment issues and offending behaviour
- cultural practices that may impact on cognitive impairment assessment and/or treatment
- relevant organisational policies and procedures related to reporting risks, behaviours and incidents involving offenders
- protective supervision and monitoring of offenders at risk of harm
- relevant support programs available
- current issues facing offenders with cognitive impairment and existing services to address their needs and rights.

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must hold credentials specified within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must satisfy the Principles of Assessment and Rules of Evidence and all regulatory requirements included within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations. Where this is not appropriate, assessment must occur in simulated workplace operational situations that reflect workplace conditions.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or simulations
- acceptable means of simulation assessment
- applicable documentation, including workplace procedures, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals
- relevant materials, tools, equipment and PPE currently used in industry.

Links

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