



Australian Government

CSCOFM035 Protect the safety and welfare of vulnerable offenders

Release: 1

CSCOFM035 Protect the safety and welfare of vulnerable offenders

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 maintain current information on vulnerable offenders and reduce their risks.

This unit applies to those responsible for the supervision of vulnerable offenders in prisons, secure custodial centres and in the community. Vulnerable offenders include, but are not limited to, those who fall into the following risk categories:

- suicide and self-harm
- physical and cognitive
- drug and substance use
- children and young people
- first timer return offender
- gender diverse
- culturally diverse
- pre/postnatal women

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 and referral processes.

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

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

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1 Maintain current information

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1** Check all information available on vulnerable offenders
- 1.2** Assess the background of the offender for indicators of risks, needs and factors to consider
- 1.3** Confirm the services and support required to meet sentencing and assessment requirements
- 1.4** Assist the offender to understand the conditions of the correctional environment and court orders and clarify their expectations of the services to be provided
- 1.5** Assist the offender to express concerns and issues and respond to these according to level of risk and urgency
- 1.6** Prepare reports and documentation and refer all concerns to relevant support in a prompt manner
- 1.7** Comply with all policies, procedures and agreed support of your organisation

2 Reduce the risks to offenders

- 2.1** Identify areas of concern in behaviour and respond to preserve the safety and welfare of all people involved
- 2.2** Assess risks in the environment and monitor in accordance with organisational policies and procedures
- 2.3** Observe the offender's routine to monitor changes in mood and behaviour and potential risks
- 2.4** Use effective communication strategies to identify offender behaviour change and any associated risk
- 2.5** Monitor movements and transfers of the offender
- 2.6** Seek specialist advice and support where needs and concerns are identified

- 2.7 Refer the offender to specialist services or programs where available
- 2.8 Promote and maintain the rights and responsibilities of the offender

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 unit replaces and is equivalent to CSCOFM004 Protect the safety and welfare of vulnerable offenders.

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 CSCOFM035 Protect the safety and welfare of vulnerable offenders

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:

- writing clear, accurate and relevant reports on offender behaviour and routines
- establishing and maintaining a supportive professional relationship with offenders and other stakeholders
- adapting responses to different risks, needs and situations
- demonstrating effective communication skills
- identifying, assessing and monitoring risks to offenders
- identifying and referring appropriate support services to vulnerable 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:

- indicators of risk, types of abuse and people who are particularly vulnerable, including indicators of:
 - suicide and self-harm
 - mental health factors
 - addiction and substance use
 - relationships and sexual behaviour
 - physical and cognitive disability
 - risk due to culture or diversity
 - past or current experience of trauma and abuse
- relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures related to protecting offenders from risk and harm and reporting risks and incidents
- offender management system
- range of specialist support services and programs available to offenders at risk
- processes for getting advice and assistance
- least restrictive care principles.

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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