



Australian Government

MSL943002 Participate in laboratory or field workplace safety

Release: 1

MSL943002 Participate in laboratory or field workplace safety

Modification History

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSL943002A Participate in laboratory/field workplace safety

Application

This unit of competency covers the ability to follow work health and safety (WHS) policies and procedures, deal with the identification and control of hazards, work safely at all times, follow emergency response procedures and contribute to the maintenance of workplace safety.

This unit of competency is applicable to laboratory assistants and instrument operators working in all industry sectors. WHS responses are restricted to a 'first response' approach, including the notification of appropriate workplace personnel. Workers will be provided with clear directions, information, training and appropriate supervision.

While no specific licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication, laboratory operations are governed by relevant legislation, regulations and/or external accreditation requirements. Local requirements should be checked.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Work health and safety

Unit Sector

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

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

1	Identify, control and report WHS and environmental hazards	1.1	Routinely check immediate work area for hazards prior to commencing and during work
		1.2	Address hazards within area of responsibility
		1.3	Report hazards and incidents to designated personnel

according to workplace policies and procedures

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| 2 | Conduct work safely | 2.1 | Select, fit and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) |
| | | 2.2 | Follow workplace procedures when carrying out work tasks |
| | | 2.3 | Keep all work areas clean and free from obstacles |
| | | 2.4 | Maintain workplace standards of personal hygiene |
| | | 2.5 | Safely store, transport and dispose of hazardous materials and dangerous goods |
| | | | |
| 3 | Follow incident and emergency response procedures | 3.1 | Identify incident and emergency situations |
| | | 3.2 | Report and record incident and emergency situations according to workplace procedures |
| | | 3.3 | Follow incident and emergency procedures as appropriate to the nature of emergency using emergency equipment according to workplace procedures |
| | | | |
| 4 | Contribute to health and safety in the workplace | 4.1 | Raise WHS and environmental issues with designated personnel in accordance with workplace procedures and legislated rights and obligations of employees |
| | | 4.2 | Participate in WHS activities within scope of responsibilities |

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance.

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

Range of Conditions

This field allows for different work environments and conditions that may affect performance. Essential operating conditions that may be present (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) are included.

Standards, codes, procedures and/or workplace requirements

Standards, codes, procedures and/or workplace requirements include the latest version of one or more of:

- Australian and international standards, guidelines and codes covering safety in laboratories; occupational protective equipment; labelling of workplace substances; storage, handling and transport of dangerous goods; environmental management; physical containment levels and facility types
- specific industry codes, such as Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) Codes of Practice
- national WHS standards and codes of practice

Designated personnel

Designated personnel include:

- laboratory manager, supervisor, WHS coordinator and WHS representative

Workplace policies and procedures

Workplace policies and procedures refer to one or more of the following:

- WHS specific procedures, such as hazard and incident reporting, communication, consultation and issue resolution, and risk management
- controlling known hazards
- minimising environmental threats
- minimising and disposing of waste
- responding to safety, emergency, fire and incidents
- selecting/using PPE

Incidents

Incidents include, but are not limited to, one or more of:

- workplace accidents and near misses
- biological, chemical or radioactive spills
- workplace injuries, such as cutting, stabbing, puncturing, crushing, immersion in water, suffocation, hypothermia, burns, heat stress, animal bites, allergic reactions and assaults
- emergency situations, such as fire, bomb threat, security threat and explosion

WHS and environmental issues

WHS and environmental issues include one or more of:

- identification of hazards not otherwise addressed
- assessment of risk and decisions about measures to control risk
- risk reduction measures
- problems with implementation of controls
- problems with recycling, by-product collection and waste disposal
- investigation of injury and incidents
- clarification of understanding of WHS policies and procedures

WHS and environmental management requirements

WHS and environmental management requirements include:

- complying with WHS and environmental management requirements at all times, which may be imposed through state/territory or federal legislation. These requirements must not be compromised at any time
- applying standard precautions relating to the potentially hazardous nature of samples
- accessing and applying current industry understanding of infection control issued by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and State and Territory Departments of Health, where relevant

Unit Mapping Information

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Links

MSA Training Package Implementation Guides - <http://mskills.org.au/training-packages/info/>