



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for MSL974007 Undertake environmental field-based monitoring

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSL974007A Undertake environmental field-based monitoring

Performance Evidence

Evidence of competence in this unit must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria, and include demonstration of:

- organising and undertaking at least one (1) field monitoring program for determining physical and chemical parameters and/or observing and documenting biological and ecological systems
- reviewing a written work program to confirm its purpose, major field activities, resource requirements and the relevant aspects of emergency, safety and environmental field plans
- developing accurate and complete checklists covering instruments, equipment and associated supplies necessary for a defined field activity
- managing the logistics of field activities, such as purchasing; bookings; assembly; checking and transport of equipment and consumables; rosters; location, establishment and maintenance of site; communication systems; waste removal and site remediation
- preparing, checking, calibrating and safely using field instruments and equipment under laboratory and field conditions
- identifying and rectifying basic equipment/instrument faults
- collecting, preserving, labelling, storing and transporting samples and specimens to enable subsequent identification and ensure their wellbeing, viability and integrity
- performing field tests accurately and collecting/recording reliable field data
- gaining site access and permits and clearances for sample collecting
- communicating and negotiating effectively with staff and other relevant parties
- responding effectively to changed or unforeseen circumstances
- following workplace safety procedures and hazard control measures for the protection of self and others.

Knowledge Evidence

Must provide evidence that demonstrates knowledge of:

- understanding of the purpose and objectives of field activities, such as information and analysis required, end users of information, and significance of outcomes for broader programs
- application of risk assessment to work programs and field activities
- technical capabilities and limitations of equipment and instruments used in field activities
- specific legislation and codes of practice related to sample collection

- workplace procedures for the conduct of monitoring activities and recording of field data
- relevant hazards, work health and safety (WHS) and environment requirements, including field safety/survival principles
- common issues and problems with organising and conducting field activities, such as:
 - loss or failure of equipment
 - failure to bring critical equipment
 - communication failure/difficulties
 - unexpected restriction access to site
 - unforeseen environmental impacts
 - contact with hazardous wastes.

Assessment Conditions

- Judgment of competence must be based on holistic assessment of the evidence. Assessment methods must confirm consistency of performance over time, rather than a single assessment event.
- This unit of competency is to be assessed in the workplace or a simulated workplace environment. A simulated workplace environment must reflect realistic operational workplace conditions that cover all aspects of workplace performance, including the environment, task skills, task management skills, contingency management skills and job role environment skills.
- Foundation skills are integral to competent performance of the unit and should not be assessed separately.
- 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.
- Knowledge evidence may be collected concurrently with performance evidence or through an independent process, such as workbooks, written assessments or interviews (provided a record is kept in each case).
- This unit of competency may be assessed with:
 - MSL944001 Maintain laboratory/field workplace safety
 - MSL954001 Obtain representative samples in accordance with sampling plan
- Holistic assessment methods include:
 - review of workplace documentation completed by the candidate, such as a checklist of resources required to carry out a defined work program and pre-and post-monitoring requirements
 - review of field data and results obtained by the candidate
 - feedback from supervisors and peers
 - review of candidate's responses to simulation exercises, such as accident and emergency situations, communication failure/difficulties and failure to bring critical equipment
 - observation of candidate preparing for and/or conducting fieldwork
 - oral and/or written questioning to assess required knowledge.
- Access is required to instruments, equipment, materials, workplace documentation, procedures and specifications associated with this unit, including, but not limited to:

- equipment required for field activities, such as vehicles, navigation and communication equipment; survey equipment, sampling equipment, containers, field test kits and instruments, safety equipment and consumables
- work program, workplace procedures, codes of practice and field protocols and manuals.
- Assessors must satisfy the assessor competency requirements that are in place at the time of the assessment as set by the VET regulator.
- The assessor must demonstrate both technical competence and currency.
- Technical competence can be demonstrated through:
 - relevant VET or other qualification/Statement of Attainment AND/OR
 - relevant workplace experience.
- Currency can be demonstrated through:
 - performing the competency being assessed as part of current employment OR
 - having consulted with a laboratory about performing the competency being assessed within the last twelve months.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c63a03b-4a6b-4ae5-9560-1e3c5f462baa>