VETASSESS

Information sheet

Chemistry Technician

ANZSCO: 311411 | **Group C**

About this document

- The following Information Sheet is for your reference only and should be used as a guide to assist with your Skills Assessment application to VETASSESS. This information is subject to change.
- Please note that a Skills Assessment of the qualification involves assessment of both the qualification level and content. Qualifications are assessed according to the guidelines published by the Australian Government Department of Education.
- The employment assessment involves determining the skill level and relevance of the tasks undertaken.
- Integrity checks may be conducted to verify the qualification and employment claims made in an application.

Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- Chemical Instrumentation Officer
- Chemical Process Analyst
- Chemistry Laboratory Technician
- Dairy Laboratory Technician
- Petroleum Laboratory Technician
- Sugar Laboratory Assistant

Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Chemist
- Biochemist
- Industrial Pharmacist
- Life Science Technician
- Earth Science Technician
- School Laboratory Technician

These occupations are classified elsewhere in ANZSCO or are not at the required skill level.

Job description

A Chemistry Technician performs laboratory tests on organic and inorganic chemicals, analyses test data and carries out technical functions in support of Chemists or Chemical Engineers in a wide variety of areas such as fuels, agricultural products, food, pharmaceuticals, paints, metals, plastics, textiles, detergents, paper, fertilizers and cosmetics.

Alternative title:

Chemistry Technical Officer

Chemistry Technician is a VETASSESS Group C occupation

This occupation requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the educational level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma or higher.

Applicants can fulfil the assessment criteria for this occupation in four different ways.

*If employment is prior to the completion of the qualification at the required level, an applicant must have at least one year of highly relevant employment at an appropriate skill level within the last five years. The remaining three years of pre-qualifying period may be within the last ten years.

A positive assessment of both qualification level and employment duration is required for a positive Skills Assessment outcome.

GROUP C	Criteria for a positive Skills Assessment							
	Post-qualification Pathways							
	Minimum comparable Diploma or higher AQF level		**With highly relevant major field of study**		**Additional highly relevant qualifications**		**Highly relevant employment duration**	
1	AQF	+		+	N/A	+	1 YEAR minimum	
2	AQF	+	No highly relevant major	+	Minimum AQF Certificate IV level with highly relevant major	+	1 YEAR minimum	
3	AQF	+	No highly relevant major	+	No additional highly relevant qualifications	+	2 YEARS minimum	
	Pre-qualification Pathway							
	Highly Relevant employment duration						**Minimum comparable Diploma or higher AQF level**	
4	3 YEARS minimum + 1 YEAR minimum (Within last 5 years)	+			With or without highly relevant major field of study	+	AQF	

Description of Pathways

The information below describes the available pathways for a Skills Assessment under **Group C** . Please note that in order to achieve a successful Skills Assessment Outcome, a suitable assessment for both qualifications and employment is required.

Pathway 1

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma or higher and in a field highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Diploma or higher includes AQF Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Master Degree or Doctoral Degree.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **one** year of post-qualification employment at an appropriate skill level, undertaken in the last five years,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Pathway 2

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma or higher and in a field not highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Diploma or higher includes AQF Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Master Degree or Doctoral Degree.

An additional qualification in a highly relevant field of study at a minimum AQF Certificate IV level is required. Additional qualifications in a highly relevant field of study include those comparable to the AQF Certificate IV.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **one** year of post-qualification employment at an appropriate skill level, undertaken in the last five years,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

For example, an applicant for the occupation Program or Project Administrator completed a non-relevant AQF Diploma qualification in April 2024 and later completed an AQF Certificate IV in Project Management in May 2026. The applicant commenced employment with the organisation in May 2024 and remains employed there.

Under Pathway 2, the applicant satisfies the minimum educational requirement for a Group C occupation through the AQF Diploma qualification. Accordingly, employment is counted from the completion date of the Diploma qualification, meaning employment from May 2024 onwards may be considered toward both the required Qualifying Period (QP) and any remaining eligible period for the points test.

As the later Certificate IV qualification is highly relevant to the occupation, the applicant may access the reduced employment requirement applicable under Pathway 2. In this case, only one year of QP is required, and that employment may be counted from the post-Diploma period rather than from the Certificate IV qualification completion date.

Pathway 3

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma or higher and in a field not highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Diploma or higher includes AQF Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Master Degree or Doctoral Degree.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **two** years of post-qualification employment at an appropriate skill level, undertaken in the last five years,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Pathway 4

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma or higher with or without a highly relevant major field of study to the nominated occupation.

Diploma or higher includes AQF Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Master Degree or Doctoral Degree.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **four** years of employment at an appropriate skill level that includes at least **one** year of highly relevant employment within the last five years before applying,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Qualification

This includes qualifications assessed at AQF Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level.

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- Chemistry
- Laboratory technology
- Chemical technology
- Biochemistry
- Analytical Chemistry
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Chemical Engineering

Employment

Highly relevant tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Preparing materials for experimentation, such as freezing and slicing specimens and mixing chemicals.
- Collecting information and samples.
- Conducting field and laboratory experiments, tests and analyses.
- Presenting results in graphic and written form by preparing maps, charts, sketches, diagrams and reports.
- Performing routine mathematical calculations, and computations of measurements.

Additional tasks may include:

- Conducting complex experiments, tests and analyses according to procedures.
- Preparing charts, sketches, diagrams and flow-charts and compiling data.
- Participating in fabricating, installing and modifying equipment, to ensure that critical standards are met.
- Controlling the quality and quantity of laboratory supplies by testing samples and monitoring usage.
- May assist in preparing technical reports and documents for publication.
- May be responsible for maintaining standards of raw material supplies and ensuring prescribed procedures are followed in production environments.

*If employment is prior to the completion of the qualification at the required level, an applicant must have at least one year of highly relevant employment at an appropriate skill level within the last five years. The remaining three years of pre-qualifying period may be within the last ten years. A positive assessment of both qualification level and employment duration is required for a positive Skills Assessment outcome.

Employment information

Chemistry Technicians usually work in laboratories or in industrial facilities such as pharmaceutical, mining, food and consumer products industries as well environmental organizations.

Technicians working in school chemistry labs may be better suited to another ANZSCO occupation: 311414 School Laboratory Technician.

Those in a university/college role with involvement in research projects may be considered for the occupation of Chemistry Technician. They would need to demonstrate the primary focus of the role is on research and laboratory analysis and not tutoring/teaching. Tutoring, practical and project supervision can be a part of the employment role but not the primary focus.

Supporting material for assessment

When applying for a Skills Assessment, please ensure you submit sufficient evidence supporting your proof of identity, qualification and employment claims. A full list of the documents required can be found on the VETASSESS website under Eligibility Criteria.