VETASSESS

Information sheet

Pharmacy Technician

ANZSCO: 311215 **Group D**

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.

Job description

Pharmacy Technicians fill and label patients' prescriptions under the supervision of a Pharmacist. They may record details of, place orders for, take stock of, and store medications and medical supplies and deliver them to patients.

Alternative Title:

- Dispensary Technician

Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Hospital Pharmacist
- Retail Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Sales Assistant

These occupations are classified elsewhere in ANZSCO.

Pharmacy Technician is a VETASSESS Group D occupation.

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

GROUP D	Criteria for a positive Skills Assessment				
	Post-qualification Pathways				
	Minimum comparable Certificate III or IV or higher AQF level		With highly relevant major field of study		Highly relevant employment duration
1	AQF Minimum AQF Certificate IV	+		+	1 YEAR minimum
2	AQF Minimum AQF Certificate IV	+	No highly relevant major	+	2 YEARS minimum
3	AQF Minimum AQF Certificate III	+		+	3 YEARS minimum
	Pre-qualification Pathway				
	Highly Relevant employment duration				Minimum comparable Certificate IV 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 D** . 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) Certificate IV or higher and in a field highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Certificate IV or higher includes AQF Diploma, 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.

Please note: The qualification level requirement AQF Certificate IV or higher can be satisfied by one qualification, while the requirement for a highly relevant major can be met by a separate qualification at a minimum of AQF Certificate III level.

Pathway 2

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

Certificate IV or higher includes AQF Diploma, 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** 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.

Please note - This pathway applies where a qualification is assessed at AQF Certificate IV level or higher and is not highly relevant to the nominated occupation, or where no other relevant qualification at AQF Certificate III level is available for consideration.

Pathway 3

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

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

- at least **three** 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) Certificate IV or higher with or without a highly relevant major field of study to the nominated occupation.

Certificate IV or higher includes AQF Diploma, 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

AQF Certificate III or higher qualification. This includes qualifications assessed at AQF Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Master and Doctoral level.

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- Pharmacy
- Community Pharmacy
- Community Pharmacy Dispensary
- Hospital/Health Services Pharmacy Support

Employment

Highly relevant tasks include:

- Referring prescriptions to Pharmacists and assisting in preparing medications;
- Filling and labelling patients' prescriptions under the supervision of a Pharmacist;
- Recording details of, placing orders for, taking stock of, and storing medications and medical supplies and delivering them to patients.

Other tasks may include:

- Compounding products under the supervision of a Pharmacist;
- Managing stock levels and inventory in pharmacies or on wards;
- Assisting with medication audits, reports and reviews;
- Supporting clinical Pharmacists in their routine work, such as screening patients or gathering information for Pharmacist review.

In Australia, there are currently no legal requirements for licensing or registration for the occupation of Pharmacy Technician.

Employment information

Employment as a Pharmacist with standard tasks in that capacity cannot be assessed positively for Pharmacy Technician as these roles require a different skill set. This occupation should also not be confused with Pharmacy Sales Assistant (ANZSCO Code 621411), a person who sells pharmaceutical goods (non-prescription), toiletries and related goods in a retail pharmacy. Pharmacy Sales Assistants may accept prescriptions for filling by Retail Pharmacists and process payment.