VETASSESS

Information sheet

Fashion Designer

ANZSCO: 232311 **Group B**

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

A Fashion Designer plans, designs and develops clothing, accessories, footwear or other items of personal apparel, considering the form and construction of clothing, historical styles and contexts, contemporary and cultural trends, colour, fabric and decoration, and the techniques and processes available for manufacture.

Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- Costume Designer

Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Industrial Designer
- Jewelry Designer
- Apparel Cutter
- Clothing Patternmaker
- Clothing Patternmaker
- Clothing Trades Workers nec

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

Fashion Designer is a VETASSESS Group B occupation

This occupation requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the educational level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree 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 five 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 B	Criteria for a suitable Skills Assessment			
	Minimum comparable Bachelor or higher degree 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 +	AQF Minimum AQF Diploma level with highly relevant major +	2 YEARS minimum
3	AQF +	No highly relevant major +	No additional highly relevant qualifications +	3 YEARS minimum
Pre-qualification methodology can apply to Group B occupations				
	Highly relevant employment duration	With or without highly relevant major field of study	Additional highly relevant qualifications	Comparable Bachelor degree AQF level
4	5 YEARS minimum + 1 YEAR minimum (Within last 5 years) +	N/A +	N/A +	AQF

Description of Pathways

The information below describes the available pathways for a Skills Assessment under **Group B**. Please note that in order to achieve a suitable Skills Assessment Outcome, a positive 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) Bachelor degree or higher degree and in a field highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF 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) Bachelor degree or higher degree and in a field not highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF Doctoral Degree.

An additional qualification in a highly relevant field of study at a minimum AQF Diploma level is required. Additional qualifications in a highly relevant field of study include those comparable to the AQF Diploma or AQF Advanced Diploma or AQF Associate Degree or AQF Graduate Diploma.

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.

For example, an applicant for the occupation Quality Assurance Manager completed a non-relevant AQF Bachelor qualification in April 2024 and later completed an AQF Diploma in Quality 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 B occupation through the AQF Bachelor qualification. Accordingly, employment is counted from the completion date of the Bachelor 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 Diploma qualification is highly relevant to the occupation, the applicant may access the reduced employment requirement applicable under Pathway 2. In this case, only two years of QP are required, and that employment may be counted from the post-Bachelor period rather than from the Diploma qualification completion date.

Pathway 3

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

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF Doctoral Degree.

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) Bachelor degree or higher degree with or without a highly relevant major field of study to the nominated occupation.

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF Doctoral Degree.

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

- at least **six** 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 Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level.

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- Fashion Design

Employment

Highly relevant tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Determining the objectives and constraints of the design brief by consulting with clients and stakeholders.
- Undertaking product research and analyzing functional, commercial, cultural and aesthetic requirements.
- Formulating design concepts for clothing.
- Preparing sketches, diagrams, illustrations, plans, samples and models to communicate design concepts.
- Negotiating design solutions with clients, management, and sales and manufacturing staff.
- Selecting, specifying and recommending functional and aesthetic materials, production methods and finishes for manufacture.
- Preparing and commissioning prototypes and samples.
- Detailing and documenting the selected design for production.
- Supervising the preparation of patterns, programs and tooling, and the manufacturing process.

Employment information

Fashion Designers plan, design, develop and create garments, footwear and lifestyle accessories to suit current trends and design briefs. They may develop high end one-of-a-kind garments, or collections suitable for large production runs.

Fashion designers follow a process of identifying trends and researching for shapes, fabrics and colours. They then focus on creating designs that will appeal to their specific target customers' needs. Design considerations include commercial constraints and production capabilities.

Fashion designers may be self-employed as entrepreneurs and freelance designers or work for fashion retailers, small businesses, designer boutiques or high-fashion department stores. Some work for apparel manufacturers, creating designs for the mass market. A few may also work as costume designers for media and stage productions.

Roles that are primarily focused on interpreting designs, sketches, and samples to make garments will not be considered under this occupation. Apparel Cutters, Clothing Patternmakers, Dressmakers or Tailors are classified separately in ANZSCO.

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.

Please note, a portfolio of completed work must be submitted for assessment if nominating this occupation

If you are nominating this occupation and you are self-employed, you are required to provide the following:

- Evidence of self-employment such as sole trading or business registration details and/or official statements issued by your (registered) Accountant and/or legal team. The statement from your Accountant or Solicitor must include the Accountant's or Solicitor's letterhead, your full name, how long you have been continuously self-employed, including official dates in each role, the nature of the business conducted, the signature and contact details of the Accountant or Solicitor.
- A statutory declaration listing your main duties during self-employment.
- Payment evidence showing regular income from self-employment, such as client invoices together with corresponding bank statements and/or official taxation records.
- Supplementary evidence, such as contracts with clients or suppliers, client testimonials, evidence of projects completed, etc.