VETASSESS

Information sheet

Journalists and Other Writers nec

ANZSCO: 212499 **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.

Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- Blogger
- Critic
- Editorial Assistant
- Photo Journalist
- Vlogger

Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Copywriter
- Newspaper or Periodical Editor
- Print Journalist
- Radio Journalist
- Television Journalist
- Technical Writer
- Author
- Book or Script Editor

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

Job description

Journalists and Other Writers research and compile news stories, write and edit news reports, commentaries and feature stories for presentation in print and electronic media, and compose written material to advertise goods and services.

This occupation group covers Journalists and Other Writers not elsewhere classified.

Journalists and Other Writers nec 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	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.

Qualifications related to the nominated specialisation of Critic may be considered on a case-by-case basis if the employment is assessed as highly relevant. For example, critics may have qualifications relevant to the area of the creative arts they review – Dance, Drama, Fine Arts, Film Studies, Literature, Music or Theatre Studies.

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- Journalism (the study of researching current affairs and events and other matters of interests and reporting them)
- Media Studies (the study of the forms and effects of media including books, radio, film, television, photography, print, digital and electronic media)
- Written Communication (the study of developing effective written communication skills).

Employment

Highly relevant tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Determining an advertising approach by consulting clients and management, and studying products to establish principal selling features.
- Making decisions about the specific content of publications.
- Reviewing copy for publication to ensure conformity with accepted rules of grammar, style and format, coherence of story, and accuracy, legality and probity of content.
- Collecting and analysing facts about newsworthy events from interviews, printed matter, investigations and observations.
- Writing commentaries, articles and stories for presentation in print and digital channels.
- Critically discussing daily news topics in the editorial columns of newspapers and reviewing books, films and plays.

Employment information

Journalists and other writers research, compose, edit and present stories, feature articles and commentaries or opinion pieces. Writing activities may span a variety of media including print, digital, online publications, radio and television. Some writers need to have in depth knowledge in their area of specialty.

Work is mobile and ranges from an office (at a media organisation, at home or on the road) across any of the environments from where the journalist gathers information.

This occupation belongs to ANZSCO Unit Group 2124 and covers Journalists and Other Writers that are not elsewhere classified in that Unit Group, or classified elsewhere in ANZSCO. Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code are:

Blogger

Keeps and updates a blog or weblog.

Critic

Judges the quality or merits of literary or artistic works and discusses their opinions in the media.

Editorial Assistant

Provides administrative and some editorial assistance to senior editorial staff during the commissioning, planning or production stages of the publication process.

Photo Journalist

Creates images in order to tell a news story.

Vlogger

Regularly posts short videos to a vlog (video blog or video log, referring to a type of blog where most or all of the content is in video form e.g. YouTube, Facebook).

Not Elsewhere Classified (nec)

Some occupations assessed by VETASSESS are listed as 'nec' which means 'not elsewhere classified'. If you are nominating one of these occupations, you must ensure that your qualifications and employment are highly relevant to one of the occupation titles given in the ANZSCO description for the particular occupation. Other specific occupation titles which cannot be found elsewhere in ANZSCO will be considered on a case by-case basis as long as they are relevant to the 'nec' codes. In order to be assessed against an 'nec' code, your occupation would generally be described as non-classified, yet specialized or related to its ANZSCO Unit Group description.

Your employment in these nominated occupations should not better match another ANZSCO code (whether assessed by VETASSESS or not). When considering whether to nominate an 'nec' occupation, you should consider the sub major group description and determine whether your skills best fit this category.

VETASSESS conducts a case-by-case assessment to determine whether the employment can be considered highly relevant to the classification

If your employment is highly relevant to another ANZSCO occupation, that period of employment cannot be assessed suitably against an 'nec' classification, regardless of whether the occupation is available for migration purposes or not. You should provide a cover letter that justifies the rationale for choosing an 'nec' category

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.

You should provide a cover letter that justifies your rationale for choosing an 'nec' category.

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, and 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.