VETASSESS

Information sheet

Urban and Regional Planner

ANZSCO: 232611

Group A

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:

- Land Planner
- Town Planner
- Traffic and Transport Planner
- Resource Management Planner (NZ)

Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Landscape Architect
- Architectural Draftsperson
- Construction Project Manager
- Land Economist

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

Job description

An Urban and Regional Planner develops and implements plans and policies for the controlled use of urban and rural land, and advises on economic, environmental and social factors affecting land use. This may include working on large-scale projects such as new suburbs, towns, industrial areas, commercial and retail developments, urban renewal projects and transportation links.

Urban and Regional Planner is a VETASSESS Group A occupation

This occupation requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the educational level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree or higher, in a field highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

GROUP A	Criteria for a suitable Skills Assessment		
	Comparable Bachelor degree AQF level	With highly relevant major field of study	Relevant employment duration
1	+	+	
Pre-qualification methodology does not apply to Group A occupations			

The information below describes the available pathways for a Skills Assessment under**Group A**. Please note that in order to achieve a suitable 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) 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.

Qualification

This includes qualifications assessed at AQF Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level.

Urban Design and Regional Planning is the study of designing and planning towns and rural communities to meet the needs of the population.

Relevant subjects may include Urban Design, Professional and Ethical Planning Practice, Land Use Allocation and Management, Governance and Planning Law, Regional and Metropolitan Growth and Planning Administration.

Specialist knowledge areas of study generally accepted for Urban Planning studies may include Indigenous People's Rights, Interests and Planning Approaches, Economic Planning, Environmental Planning, Social Planning and Transport Planning.

Degrees in Architectural studies are generally not assessed positively. If the course includes a sufficient range of Urban Planning related studies, it may be considered positively on a case-by-case basis.

Highly relevant majors of study include:

- Urban Planning

Employment

Highly relevant tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Compiling and analysing data on economic, legal, political, cultural, demographic, sociological, physical and environmental factors affecting land use.
- Conferring with government authorities, communities, Architects, social scientists, Legal Professionals, and planning, development and environmental specialists.
- Devising and recommending use and development of land, and presenting narrative and graphic plans, programs and designs to groups and individuals.
- Advising governments and organisations on urban and regional planning and resource planning.
- Reviewing and evaluating environmental impact reports.
- Staying up-to-date with changes in building and zoning codes, regulations and other legal issues.
- May serve as mediators in disputes over planning proposals and projects.
- May speak at public meetings and appear before government to explain planning proposals.

Additional tasks may include:

- Assisting developers to obtain planning permits.
- Providing evidence for appeals in planning disputes.

Employment Information

Categories of acceptable employment contexts include (but are not limited to):

- Government at all levels (including local council / municipality)
- Urban Design Company / Consultancy
- Multidisciplinary Design Consultancy
- Property Development Company

Urban and Regional Planners develop plans and programs for land use and built environment. Unlike Landscape Architects who specifically focus on the layout and features in outdoor areas, Urban Planners consider environmental factors as well as community needs and the long-term development plans for a specific region.

Applicants who are based in multidisciplinary design consultancy may also be deemed suitable provided any tasks undertaken are performed in an appropriate department or division of the company.

Academic Roles such as PhD research / teaching / tutoring are generally not accepted as relevant employment for this occupation.

Urban and Regional Planner may also establish their own private practice or be self-employed. Please refer to 'Supporting Material for Assessment' for documentation requirements relating to self-employed applicants.

Supporting material for assessment

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

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.
- 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.