VETASSESS

Information sheet

Interior Designer

ANZSCO: 232511 | **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

An Interior Designers plans, designs, details and supervises the construction of commercial, industrial, retail and residential building interiors to produce an environment tailored to a purpose, with particular emphasis on space creation, space planning, and factors that enhance living and working environments.

Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- Commercial Interior Designer
- Residential Interior Designer
- Retail Interior Designer

Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Architect
- Architectural Draftsperson
- Architectural, Building and Surveying Technicians nec
- Interior Decorator
- Civil Engineering Draftsperson
- Visual Merchandisers

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

Interior 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 must have fulfilled at least one of the following four criteria (1-4):

GROUP B	Criteria for a positive 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 successful 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 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) 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.

Interior Design is the study of planning and designing interior environments of homes, offices, factories and other buildings with concern for functionality, practicality and human needs and requirements.

Relevant subjects may include, but are not limited to, Interior Design-related Communication, Design, Technologies, Lighting, Acoustics, Materials and Form, Building Codes and Regulations, Structural Design, Project Management, The Human Environment, Colour Coordination, Furniture and Furnishings, Textiles and finishing, Spatial Experience.

Degrees in Architectural studies are generally not considered highly relevant under this occupation. If the course includes a sufficient range of interior design-related studies, it may be considered positively on a case-by-case basis.

Highly relevant majors of study include:

- Interior Design
- Interior Architecture

Employment

Highly relevant tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Consults and coordinates with clients, stakeholders, users and specialist consultants to determine objectives and constraints on interior design projects.
- Researches and analyses spatial, functional, economic, ergonomic, comfort, safety, sustainability, inclusivity and aesthetic requirements of interior spaces.
- Creates designs that encourage and facilitate optimal use of a space by inhabitants.
- Generates presentations, renderings and 3D visualisations to illustrate interior design concepts.
- Communicates ideas to clients, stakeholders and collaborators using CAD software and other visualisation tools to develop realistic representations of proposed interior designs.
- Selects materials, finishes, furnishings and decorative elements to enhance the aesthetic appeal and functionality of the space.
- Details and documents new interior building work for construction to comply with required building codes, standards and authorities.
- Collaborates with architects, contractors, vendors and suppliers to ensure that designs are executed in accordance with specifications, budget and time constraints.

Additional tasks may include:

- May work with architects in the preparation of plans.
- Estimating costs and materials required and presenting plans and quotes to clients for approval.
- Designing original furnishings and joinery to conform with a proposed scheme.

Employment information

In order to be considered as an Interior Designer, applicants are required to demonstrate employment in a role that is primarily focused on project work specific to the design of interior spaces. This should entail a development of the overall interior spatial experiences for occupants by designing the layout, lighting, colour, fixtures and furnishings to meet the client's brief and requirements. Suitable project involvements can vary and may be related to various typologies such as residential, commercial (including offices and retail) and institutional (including cultural and educational). You may also design interiors for ships, aircraft or other transport vehicles.

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

- Interior Design company
- Architectural company
- Property development companies
- Independent contractor/self-employed

If the primary focus of your employment experience relates to other forms of design/drafting such as architectural, engineering, visual merchandising or limited to particular elements such as lighting only or furniture only, then an application under Interior Design would not be recommended. Some of these activities are identified elsewhere by ANZSCO, and would not hold relevance under the occupation of Interior Designer.

Interior Designers 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 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.

To further support your employment claims, you must also provide supplementary documentation to demonstrate your Interior Designer duties. A portfolio showing project documentation examples and project lists would be appropriate for this purpose. Please provide a link to your portfolio or upload samples of your design work, of no more than 5MB per sample, in your online application submission.

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.