VETASSESS

Information sheet

Surveying or Spatial Science Technician

ANZSCO: 312116 | **Group C**

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 Surveying or Spatial Science Technician collects, records and evaluates spatial information and prepares databases, maps, charts and plans in support of Surveyors, Cartographers or Other Spatial Scientists.

Alternative Title:

- GIS Technician

Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- Surveying Technician
- Aerial Survey Technician
- Photogrammetrist

Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Architectural, Building and Surveying Technicians nec
- Other Spatial Scientist
- Cartographer
- Building and Engineering Technicians nec

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

Surveying or Spatial Science Technician is a VETASSESS Group C occupation

This occupation requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the educational level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma or higher.

Applicants can fulfil the assessment criteria for this occupation in four different ways.

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

Diploma or higher includes AQF 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.

Pathway 2

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

Diploma or higher includes AQF Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Master Degree or Doctoral Degree.

An additional qualification in a highly relevant field of study at a minimum AQF Certificate IV level is required. Additional qualifications in a highly relevant field of study include those comparable to the AQF Certificate IV.

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.

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) Diploma or higher and in a field not highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Diploma or higher includes AQF 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** 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) Diploma or higher with or without a highly relevant major field of study to the nominated occupation.

Diploma or higher includes AQF 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

This includes qualifications assessed at AQF Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level.

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- Surveying
- Mapping Science
- Spatial Information Systems

Employment

Highly relevant tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Collecting, recording and evaluating spatial information and preparing databases, maps, charts and plans in support of Surveyors, Cartographers or Other Spatial Scientists.
- Collecting data using surveying instruments and photogrammetric equipment.
- Performing routine computations and plotting preliminary data.

Additional tasks may include:

- Setting up scientific equipment and calibrating precision instruments, and diagnosing and correcting faults in equipment.
- Collecting and analysing source maps, survey data, photographs, computer records and other information.
- Using land and geographical information data bases.

Employment information

Surveying or Spatial Science Technicians are primarily involved in the collation and evaluation of geospatial information in a variety of formats (such as databases, maps and charts) to support the work of senior spatial science, cartography and surveying professionals. Applicants employed in roles suitable for assessment under this occupation may be engaged in a wide variety of employment contexts, including supporting the use of geospatial or surveying data assets and equipment. Services may be for a range of public and private entities, such as local councils, property developers, utility companies and research bodies.

As this is a technician-level occupation, employment positions where an applicant is primarily engaged in leading the development and delivery of geospatial systems, software or services would not be considered suitable under this occupation.

Similarly, roles where employment involves overseeing surveying activities rather than primarily performing technical duties and analysis is classified elsewhere in ANZSCO and would also not be deemed highly relevant to this occupation.

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.