

LIFE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN (ANZSCO Code: 311413)



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 a 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 and Training.

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 Life Science Technician identifies and collects living organisms and conducts field and laboratory studies in support of Life Scientists or Environmental Scientists.

Alternative Title

- Life Science Technical Officer

Specialisations

- Biological Technical Officer
- Botanical Technical Officer
- Ecological Technical Officer
- Environmental Technical Officer
- Fisheries Technical Officer
- Forestry Technical Officer
- Forestry Technician
- Zoology Technical Officer
- Wood Technologist

SRGO Occupational Information Sheet
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Occupations not considered under this ANZSCO code:

- Chemistry Technician
- Earth Science Technician
- School Laboratory Technician
- Hydrographer
- Science Technicians nec
- Medical Technician

Requirements for Skills Assessment

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

In addition to this, applicants must have at least one year of post-qualification employment at an appropriate skill level completed in the last five years in a field which is highly relevant to the nominated occupation. If employment is not post-qualification, then three additional years of highly relevant employment are required.

If the qualification is not in a highly relevant field, two years of employment at an appropriate skill level, completed in the last five years which is highly relevant to the nominated occupation is required. This is reduced to one year if there is an additional qualification at least at AQF Certificate IV level in a highly relevant field.

A positive assessment of both qualifications and employment is required for a positive Skills Assessment Outcome.

Qualification

AQF Diploma or higher

Highly relevant fields of study include:

- Life Sciences
- Biomedical Science
- Environmental Science
- Laboratory Technology
- Applied Science
- Biotechnology

Life Sciences is the study of living things - plants and animals. It helps to explain how living things relate to one another and to their surroundings.

Employment

A Life Science Technician identifies and collects living organisms and conducts field and laboratory studies in support of Life Scientists or Environmental Scientists.

Highly relevant tasks include:

- preparing materials for experimentation such as freezing and slicing specimens and mixing chemicals
- collecting information and samples
- conducting field and laboratory experiments, tests and analyses
- presenting results in graphic and written form by preparing maps, charts, sketches, diagrams and reports
- performing routine mathematical calculations, and computations of measurements
- controlling the quality and quantity of laboratory supplies by testing samples and monitoring usage
- checking, calibrating and maintaining test equipment

Employment context

In Australia, there are currently no legal requirements for licensing or registration for the occupation of Life Science Technician.

Science Technicians perform tests and experiments, and provide technical support functions to assist with research, design and production.

The main contexts in which they work include:

- Universities and educational institutions
- Private research organisations
- Commercial laboratories
- Medical and hospital laboratories (if non clinical)
- Pharmaceutical laboratories (Research and Development stage)
- Government research facilities