

Zookeeper

ANZSCO: 361114

Group D

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 Zookeeper feeds, provides water for, and monitors the health of, animals in zoos, aquaria and wildlife parks. They clean, fix and maintain animal cages, and inform visitors about animals.

Occupations not considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- › Aquarist












Zookeeper is a VETASSESS Group D occupation

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

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

Qualification and employment criteria

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

GROUP D		Criteria for a positive Skills Assessment		
Post-qualification Pathways				
	Minimum comparable Certificate III or IV or higher AQF level		With highly relevant major field of study	Highly relevant employment duration*
1	 Minimum AQF Certificate IV	+		
2	 Minimum AQF Certificate IV	+	No highly relevant major	
3	 Minimum AQF Certificate III	+		
Pre-qualification Pathway				
	Highly Relevant employment duration*			Minimum comparable Certificate IV AQF level
4	 +  Within last 5 years	+	With or without highly relevant major field of study	

* Highly relevant paid employment duration (20 hours or more per week)

* 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 three 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.

Pathways 1–3

minimum years of post-qualification employment highly relevant to the nominated occupation, completed at an appropriate skill level in the five years before the date of application for a Skills Assessment.

Pathway 4

minimum 4 years of relevant employment required – Three years of relevant employment (can be outside the last 5-year period) in addition to at least one year of highly relevant employment within the last five years before applying.

A positive assessment of both qualification level and employment duration is required for a positive Skills Assessment outcome.

Qualification

AQF Certificate III or higher qualification. This includes qualifications assessed at AQF Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Graduate Diploma, Master and Doctoral level.

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- › Zoology
- › Animal biology
- › Animal husbandry
- › Veterinary nursing or other animal-related disciplines. Some of these fields may only be studied at a higher academic level.

A highly relevant course at the required level is the Certificate IV in Captive Animals, which includes subjects such as:

- › Assist with capturing, restraining and moving animals
- › Contribute to enclosure and exhibit design or renovation projects
- › Design and evaluate interpretive and learning programs
- › Develop and monitor collection management
- › Develop animal diets
- › Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing
- › Maintain occupational health and safety processes
- › Manage enclosures and exhibits
- › Monitor animal reproduction
- › Plan for and provide nutritional requirements for animals
- › Prepare and maintain animal housing
- › Prepare and present information to the public
- › Provide basic care of amphibians/birds/mammals/fish etc.
- › Work within a captive animal facility

Employment Tasks

Highly relevant tasks include, include, but are not to:

- › Inspecting, preparing, cleaning, disinfecting and maintaining comfortable animal cages and enclosures
- › Transporting food, filling water troughs and feeding animals according to their individual needs
- › Maintaining animal health records, treating minor injuries and reporting serious conditions to Veterinarians
- › Exercising and playing with animals, answering visitor questions, and transferring animals between enclosures by leading or carrying them.



Quality
ISO 9001

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