

Australian Qualification Framework Levels

The Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) provides a national set of criteria for qualifications that must be met by institutions, providers and schools.

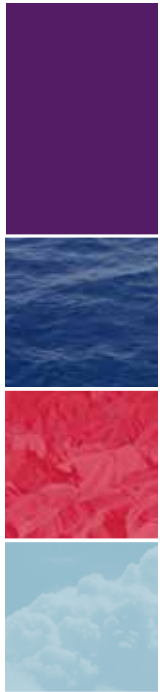
The AQF ensures all qualifications issued in Australian education sectors are regulated, quality assured and nationally recognised.

Australian Qualification Framework Levels			
Level 1	Certificate I	Foundation/initial training skill level, base career knowledge and skills for initial work under direct supervision	Vocational Education and Training Levels
Level 2	Certificate II	Foundation/initial training skill level, base technical area knowledge and skills for work in a defined context and work under supervision	
Level 3	Certificate III	Foundation skill level, theoretical and practical knowledge and skills for work under supervisor direction	
Level 4	Certificate IV	Advanced trade, team leader, more complex theoretical and practical knowledge and skills for specialised and/or skilled work, ensuring staff compliance	
Level 5	Diploma	Management level skills, advanced specialist trades, multiple teams and projects leader, specialised knowledge and skills for skilled/paraprofessional work	
Level 6	Advanced Diploma Associate Degree	Strategic or organisational management lead, broad knowledge and skills for paraprofessional/highly skilled work	
Level 7	Bachelor Degree	Broad and coherent knowledge and skills for professional work and/or further learning	Tertiary – University Levels
Level 8	Bachelor (Hons) Degree	Advanced knowledge and skills for professional or highly skilled work and/or further learning	
	Graduate Certificate Graduate Diploma		
Level 9	Masters Degree	Specialised knowledge and skills for research and/or professional practice and/or further learning	
Level 10	Doctoral Degree	Systematic and critical understanding of a complex field of learning and specialised research skills for the advancement of learning and/or for professional practice	

ADF Transition and Civil Recognition

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AQF Criteria – Vocational Education and Training (VET) Levels

Level 1 – Certificate I

Knowledge

- foundational knowledge for everyday life and further learning preparation for initial work

Skills

- foundational cognitive, technical and communication skills
- undertake defined routine activities
- identify and report simple issues and problems

Application of knowledge & skills

- demonstrates autonomy
- highly structured and stable contexts within narrow parameters

Level 2 – Certificate II

Knowledge

- basic factual, technical and procedural knowledge
- defined area of work and learning

Skills

- basic cognitive, technical and communication skills
- apply appropriate methods, tools, materials and readily available information to undertake defined activities
- provide solutions to a limited range of predictable problems

Application of knowledge & skills

- demonstrates autonomy
- limited judgement in structured, stable contexts within narrow parameters

Level 3 – Certificate III

Knowledge

- factual, technical, procedural and some theoretical knowledge of a specific area of work and learning

Skills

- a range of cognitive, technical and communication skills to select and apply a specialised range of methods, tools, materials and information to: complete routine activities
- provide and transmit solutions to predictable and sometimes unpredictable problems

Application of knowledge & skills

- demonstrates autonomy and judgement
- limited responsibility in known, stable contexts within established parameters

Level 4 – Certificate IV

Knowledge

- broad factual, technical and some theoretical knowledge of a specific area or a broad field of work and learning

Skills

- a broad range of cognitive, technical and communication skills select and apply a range of methods, tools, materials and information to complete routine and non-routine activities
- provide and transmit solutions to a variety of predictable and sometimes unpredictable problems

Application of knowledge & skills

- demonstrates autonomy, judgement and limited responsibility
- known or changing contexts within established parameters

Level 5 – Diploma

Knowledge

- technical and theoretical knowledge
- specific area or broad field of work and learning

Skills

- broad range of cognitive, technical and communication skills
- select and apply methods and technologies to analyse information
- provide and transmit solutions to sometimes complex problems
- transmit information and skills to others

Application of knowledge & skills

- demonstrates autonomy, judgement and defined responsibility
- demonstrated in known or changing contexts within broad but established parameters

Level 6 – Advanced Diploma

Knowledge

- broad theoretical and technical knowledge of a specific area
- broad field of work and learning

Skills

- broad range of cognitive, technical and communication skills select and apply methods and technologies to analyse information
- interpret and transmit solutions to unpredictable and sometimes complex problems
- transmit information and skills to others

Application of knowledge & skills

- demonstrates autonomy, judgement and defined responsibility
- provides specialist advice and functions within broad parameters in known or changing contexts

Levels 7-10 are tertiary levels not provided through the Defence RTO

VET qualifications aim to provide occupational and practical skills. Tertiary education focusses on achieving academic goals using analysis, research and modelling.

VET courses use competency-based assessment. Tertiary courses use a grading approach for assessment.