

COVID-19 Emergency Response Sub-Committee

Statement on the delivery of new cross-sectoral infection control skill sets

The Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC) has identified infection control training as a key priority across a range of industry sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Four new Infection Control skill sets have been endorsed by the AISC Emergency Response Sub-Committee, and the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Skills Council.

The newly developed infection control skill sets will help minimise the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus as Australia moves towards the rebuilding of businesses, the workforce and a stronger economy.

A series of resources has been developed to support RTOs deliver the new skill sets to different industry audiences. These resources are available on the AISC website at https://www.aisc.net.au/content/communiques-and-training-package-updates.

The AISC wishes to advise Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) of the following:

- The new Infection Control skill sets have been developed to enable infection control training for the retail, food handling and transport and logistics sectors. The skill sets are designed to support individuals who require infection control skills and knowledge to decrease the risk and transmission of infection whilst carrying out their daily duties.
- A series of resources to support RTOs to deliver the skill sets have been developed. These resources will include comprehensive advice on how to contextualise delivery of the skill sets to the identified industry audiences. The resources are available at https://www.aisc.net.au/content/communiques-and-training-package-updates.
- These skill sets have been designed to complement, rather than replace, existing nonaccredited infection control training.

General advice regarding the delivery of face-to-face training

- All RTOs are expected to follow Australian Government advice regarding social distancing, personal hygiene, and when and how to isolate during the COVID-19 pandemic. For further information, please visit the Australian Government Department of Health website at https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert.
- Should your RTO continue to deliver face-to-face, you must ensure there is ample space in the classroom between people, for example by ensuring desks/work stations are adequately separated.
- RTOs should also consider increasing cleaning, particularly of classrooms, toilets, common areas, door handles and equipment.
- Any student who is unwell, or who is required to self-isolate, must not attend class and must be sent home.
- RTOs are advised to check with their relevant jurisdictional health authorities regarding any additional requirements that apply in their location.
- RTOs are also encouraged to contact their VET regulator to discuss adaptive measures for training and assessment strategies being considered during COVID-19.

To keep informed of the work the AISC is doing during the COVID-19 crisis, visit the new COVID-19 section of the AISC website at www.aisc.net.au/covid-19

To provide feedback on current or emerging issues affecting the VET sector as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, visit the ASQA or AISC websites and complete the relevant form.

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