

**22625VIC**  
**Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and  
Management of Family Violence**

**Version 2.0 - 14 May 2024**

**This course has been accredited under Part 4.4 of the  
*Education and Training Reform Act 2006.***

**Accredited for the period: 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2028**

**22625VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence**

Version History:		Date
Version 2.0	Expired imported unit (VU22733) updated to revised equivalent unit (VU23650). Nominal hours updated accordingly.	14 May 2024
Version 1.0	Initial release approved to commence from 1 July 2023.	20 June 2023

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<b>3. Type of submission</b>	This submission is for re-accreditation of <i>22561VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence Risk</i>
<b>4. Copyright acknowledgement</b>	Copyright of this material is reserved to the Crown in the right of the State of Victoria. © State of Victoria (DJSIR) 2023 The following unit of competency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VU23650 Identify and respond to family violence risk</li></ul> has been imported from <b>22660VIC Course in Identifying and Responding to Family Violence Risk</b> . Copyright of this material is reserved to the Crown in the right of the State of Victoria. © State of Victoria (DJSIR) 2024. Copies of this publication can be downloaded free of charge from the <a href="#">Victorian Government website</a> .



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<p><b>6. Course accrediting body</b></p>	<p>Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority</p>
<p><b>7. AVETMISS information</b></p>	<p>ANZSCO code – GEN20 Non-industry specific training ASCED Code – 0905 Human Welfare Studies and Services National course code - 22625VIC</p>
<p><b>8. Period of accreditation</b></p>	<p>1 July 2023 - 30 June 2028</p>



## Section B – Course information

<b>1. Nomenclature</b>	<b>Standard 4.1 and 5.8 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b>
<b>1.1 Name of the qualification</b>	Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence
<b>1.2 Nominal duration of the course</b>	180 hours
<b>2. Vocational or educational outcomes</b>	<b>Standard 5.1 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b>
<b>2.1 Outcome(s) of the course</b>	<p>The vocational/industry outcome of this course is the ability to work in accordance with Victoria's <i>Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) Framework</i> in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify family violence</li> <li>• respectfully, sensitively and safely engage with individuals, including using a trauma and violence-informed approach</li> <li>• select and use intermediate risk assessment tools and resources that are appropriate to the individual</li> <li>• use Structured Professional Judgement to undertake intermediate risk assessment and intermediate risk management</li> <li>• seek and share risk-relevant information; as per information sharing laws and regulations</li> <li>• seek secondary consultation for comprehensive risk assessment, risk management and referrals</li> </ul> <p>In addition, this course addresses recognising and minimising risks to own wellbeing associated with responding to family violence.</p>
<b>2.2 Course description</b>	This course provides graduates with the skills and knowledge to undertake intermediate risk assessment and management of family violence, in accordance with Victoria's <i>Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) Framework</i> .
<b>3. Development of the course</b>	<b>Standards 4.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b>
<b>3.1 Industry, education, legislative, enterprise or community needs</b>	<p><b>Course background</b></p> <p>The Victorian state government has determined family violence to be its number one law and order challenge, in recognition of the immeasurable emotional, psychological and physical harm it causes, particularly to women and children. A series of family violence related deaths in Victoria in 2014/2015 prompted the establishment of Australia's first Royal Commission into Family Violence on 22nd February 2015. The need to invest in family violence reforms</p>

acknowledges the growing awareness of its scale, the failure of existing policy to reduce its prevalence and severity and the community's preparedness to act<sup>1</sup>.

Tasked with finding solutions to prevent family violence, improve support for victim survivors and hold adults using family violence to account, the Royal Commission into Family Violence report was delivered in March 2016, with all 227 recommendations accepted by the state government<sup>2</sup>. This course is principally informed by the outcomes of Recommendation 207 and Recommendation 1:

- Recommendation 207 concerns the development of a 10-year industry plan for family violence prevention and response in Victoria, covering workforce requirements of all government and non-government agencies and services that have or will have responsibility for preventing or responding to family violence, and address, in part, workforce capability, qualifications and professional development needs.
- The [Responding to Family Violence Capability Framework](#) (developed in December 2017) articulates the skills and knowledge required to work within the family violence industry and aims to shape the family violence workforce of the future, by encompassing capabilities across workforce tiers spanning specialist services, core support services, mainstream/social support services and universal services.
- Recommendation 1 calls for the review and implementation of *“the revised Family Violence Risk Assessment and Risk Management Framework (known as the Common Risk Assessment Framework, or the CRAF), in order to deliver a comprehensive framework that sets minimum standards and roles and responsibilities for screening, risk assessment, risk management, information sharing and referral throughout Victorian agencies”*<sup>3</sup>.

The [Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework](#) (MARAM Framework) was subsequently developed in July 2018.<sup>4</sup>

Building workforce and organisational capability across the range of workforces that intersect with family violence is a key priority of Victoria's 10-year Industry Plan, [Building from Strength](#).<sup>5</sup>

Developing accredited courses to address the skills and knowledge required to build family violence response capabilities is a key action in

<sup>1</sup> State of Victoria 2016, Royal Commission into Family Violence, *Summary and Recommendations*: <https://www.rcfv.com.au/Report-Recommendations>

<sup>2</sup> State of Victoria (Department of Premier & Cabinet) 2016, *Ending Family Violence: Victoria's Plan for Change*: <https://www.vic.gov.au/ending-family-violence-victorias-10-year-plan-change>

<sup>3</sup> State of Victoria 2016, Royal Commission into Family Violence, *Summary and Recommendations*, p.45.

<sup>4</sup> Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework: <https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-multi-agency-risk-assessment-and-management-framework>

<sup>5</sup> State of Victoria (Family Safety Victoria) 2017, *Building from strength: 10-Year Industry Plan for Family Violence Prevention and Response*: <https://www.vic.gov.au/building-strength-10-year-industry-plan>





[Strengthening the Foundations: First Rolling Action Plan 2019-2022](#)<sup>6</sup> under *Building from Strength*. Action 2.1 of this Action Plan states:

*“Develop accredited units of competency in family violence response and prevention to meet the skill and capability requirements for the future specialist workforces and the broader workforces that intersect with family violence to support alignment to MARAM.”*<sup>7</sup>

This course aligns to intermediate-level risk assessment and management responsibilities outlined in the *MARAM Framework* and *MARAM Practice Guidance* and is underpinned by Tier 2 & 3 capabilities as outlined in the *Responding to Family Violence Capability Framework*.

This course addresses the skills and knowledge to undertake the following activities in accordance with the individual’s work role:

- identify family violence
- respectfully, sensitively and safely engage with individuals, including using a trauma and violence-informed approach
- select and use intermediate risk assessment tools and resources that are appropriate to the individual
- use Structured Professional Judgement to undertake intermediate risk assessment and intermediate risk management
- seek and share risk-relevant information; as per information sharing laws and regulations
- seek secondary consultation for comprehensive risk assessment, risk management and referrals
- recognise and minimise risks to own wellbeing associated with responding to family violence

### **Need for early review/re-accreditation**

The current course, *22561VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence Risk*, was accredited in 2020.

At the time of course development in the first half of 2020, only the MARAM practice guides for working with victim survivors was available. The MARAM Practice Guidance for working with perpetrators was anticipated to be released in late 2020. The practice guides for professionals working with adults using family violence (terminology change from ‘perpetrators’) was released in August 2021 and there have been some changes from the draft practice guidance the course was developed against in 2020 and the published version of the practice guidance. As such, a review is required to align course content to this Practice Guide to provide coverage of working with both victim survivors and people using violence in line with all MARAM Practice Guides.

In addition, the MARAM Practice Guides for adolescents using family violence are still in development and has an uncertain anticipated release date. This means the current course cannot be delivered in its

<sup>6</sup> State of Victoria (Family Safety Victoria) 2019, *Strengthening the Foundations: First Rolling Action Plan 2019-2022*: <https://www.vic.gov.au/strengthening-foundations-first-rolling-action-plan-2019-22>

<sup>7</sup> *ibid.* pg 22.



current state and needed to be reviewed to remove any content related to risk assessment and management of adolescents using family violence.

### Impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19)

The [Family Violence Reform Rolling Action Plan 2020-2023](#)<sup>8</sup> outlines how coronavirus created additional challenges, including increased anxiety, social isolation and financial stress, particularly for those who are/were experiencing family violence.

*“We know that emergencies and crises can also intensify existing violence, particularly where women are separated from their social networks and have less opportunity to reach out. The breakdown of broader community support structures may mean that women and children who are already experiencing violence or who have recently left violent partners are put at further risk, by needing to rely on a perpetrator for survival or access to services.”<sup>9</sup>*

The rolling action plan states that while Victoria experienced an initial decrease in demand for police and family violence services with the introduction of social distancing measures, year on year evidence shows increasing rates of family violence in Australia during COVID-19.<sup>10</sup>

This increased complexity and increased demand demonstrates an even greater need for this course in order to upskill existing workers and train new people entering the workforce in the skills and knowledge required for MARAM intermediate risk assessment and management of family violence.

### Target audience for the course

This course is intended for individuals working at core support or mainstream service organisations. They will be professionals who do not have family violence as a core function of their role, however they spend a significant portion of their time responding to victim survivors (including children and young people) or adults using family violence, or work in sectors that respond to the impacts of family violence including crisis response or therapeutic work.

These professionals may encounter victim survivors (including children and young people) and adults using family violence through their interactions with children, families and/or adults within their work at core support or mainstream service organisations such as child protection, corrections and other justice services, mental health, gambling, alcohol and other drug services, housing and homelessness services, Victoria Legal Aid and Victoria Police.

<sup>8</sup> State of Victoria 2020, *Family Violence Reform Rolling Action Plan 2020-2023*: <https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-reform-rolling-action-plan-2020-2023>

<sup>9</sup> *ibid*, *Coronavirus (COVID-19)*: <https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-reform-rolling-action-plan-2020-2023/coronavirus-covid-19>

<sup>10</sup> *ibid*.



This course supports the attainment of intermediary skills and knowledge required for family violence risk assessment and management.

### Course consultation and validation process

The re-accreditation of the 22625VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence was overseen by a project steering committee who confirmed the:

- required skills and knowledge outcomes of the course,
- alignment of the course to the *MARAM Framework* and associated Intermediate-level *MARAM Practice guidance*,
- course structure, and
- final accreditation submission.

The members of the steering committee provided input on course content and structure via virtual meetings and circulation of draft course/unit documents for review and written feedback.

### Members of Steering Committee:

Amanda Thompson (Chair) Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Simone Tassone Family Safety Victoria

Michelle Perry Court Services Victoria

Tori Cooke No to Violence

Genevieve Peterson Department of Justice and Community Safety

Jacky Tucker Safe and Equal

Tharaka Tennekoon Safe and Equal

### In attendance:

Autumn Shea CMM for Human Services

Wendy Dowe CMM Project Officer

Ari Tranter Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Ronnie Kerr Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Kathryn Kent Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Julian Alban Family Safety Victoria

Eileen MacMahon Box Hill Institute

Mark Treloar Department of Justice and Community Safety

### Sector Consultation (in addition to Steering Committee)

In addition, Family Safety Victoria (now Department of Families, Fairness and Housing) conducted a sector consultation process, in addition to Steering Committee consultation and feedback for the draft

intermediate unit to ensure a broad representation of views from sectors who are the target audience of this course. The consultation utilised a targeted approach, selecting workforces with MARAM intermediate responsibilities and contacting representatives through various channels.

The following workforces were approached for feedback on the draft intermediate risk assessment and management unit:

- Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD)
- Child Protection
- Child and Family Services
- Mental Health
- Housing and homelessness
- Health services
- Department of Health
- Older people
- LGBTIQ+
- Disability
- Higher education
- Department of Justice and Community Services
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations

All feedback provided through this process was considered and incorporated into the intermediate unit where appropriate.

This course:

- does not duplicate, by title or coverage, the outcomes of an endorsed training package qualification
- is not a subset of a single training package qualification that could be recognised through one or more statements of attainment or a skill set
- does not include units of competency additional to those in a training package qualification that could be recognised through statements of attainment in addition to the qualification
- does not comprise units that duplicate units of competency of a training package qualification.

### 3.2 Review for re- accreditation

This review for early reaccreditation was triggered by Family Safety Victoria (now Department of Families, Fairness and Housing) in order to:

- Update content to reflect new key practice concepts relating to people using violence, now incorporated in an updated MARAM Foundation Knowledge Guide.
- Change the terminology from ‘perpetrators’ to ‘people who use family violence’ to better align with MARAM practice guidance.
- Remove references to adolescents using family violence.
- Cut the volume of the intermediate risk unit (VU22988), which is currently 125 hours, to make it more accessible, particularly for workers in-service.

#### Delivery/enrolments

There has not been any delivery of *22561VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence Risk*. This was due to the unavailability of relevant MARAM Practice Guidance, as outlined in Section B 3.1, which were required for delivering this course.

#### Transition and equivalence

The *22625VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence* replaces and is **not equivalent** to *22561VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence Risk*.

**Table 1** below identifies the relationship between units from this re-accredited course (*22625VIC*) to units from *22561VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence Risk*.

**TABLE 1: Transition arrangements between 22561VIC and 22625VIC**

OLD COURSE Units in <i>22561VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence Risk</i>	NEW COURSE Unit in <i>22625VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence Version 2</i>	Relationship
VU22733 Identify and provide initial response to family violence risk	VU23650 Identify and respond to family violence risk	Equivalent.
VU22988 Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk	VU23432 Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk	Not equivalent.

4. Course outcomes	Standards 5.5, 5.6 and 5.7 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses
4.1 Qualification level	<i>22625VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence</i> meets an identified industry need, but does not have the breadth, depth or volume of learning of an AQF qualification.
4.2 Foundation skills	Foundation skills essential to performance are embedded within the unit of competency within this course. Foundation skill requirements, where not explicit in the performance criteria, are identified in the 'Foundation Skills' field of the unit of competency.
4.3 Recognition given to the course (if applicable)	Not applicable.
4.4 Licensing/regulatory requirements (if applicable)	Not applicable.

<b>5. Course rules</b>	<b>Standards 5.8 and 5.9 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b>
<b>5.1 Course structure</b>	<p>To be eligible for the award of a Statement of Attainment for the <b>22625VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence</b>, participants must successfully complete the two (2) units listed in table below.</p> <p>Where the full course is not completed, a Statement of Attainment will be issued for any completed unit.</p>

Unit of competency code	Unit of competency title	Field of Education code (six-digit)	Pre-requisite	Nominal hours
VU23650	Identify and respond to family violence risk	090501	None	90
VU23432	Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk	090501	VU23650	90
<b>Total nominal hours</b>				<b>180</b>

<b>Standard 5.11 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b>	
<b>5.2 Entry requirements</b>	<p>There are no mandatory entry requirements for the <i>22625VIC Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence</i>.</p> <p>Learners enrolling in this course are best equipped to successfully undertake the course if they have as a minimum, language, literacy and communication skills that align to Level 2 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF), see the <a href="#">ACSF website</a> for more information.</p> <p>Learners with language, literacy and numeracy skills at a lower level than suggested will require additional support to successfully undertake the course.</p>

<b>6. Assessment</b>	<b>Standard 5.12 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b>
<b>6.1 Assessment strategy</b>	<p>All assessment, including Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), must be compliant with the requirements of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard 1 of the AQTF: Essential Conditions and Standards for Initial/Continuing Registration and Guidelines 4.1 and 4.2 of the VRQA Guidelines for VET Providers,</li> </ul> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 (SRTOs),</li> </ul> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the relevant standards and Guidelines for RTOs at the time of assessment.</li> </ul>



Assessment strategies must therefore ensure that:

- all assessments are valid, reliable, flexible and fair
- learners are informed of the context and purpose of the assessment and the assessment process
- feedback is provided to learners about the outcomes of the assessment process and guidance given for future options
- time allowance to complete a task is reasonable and specified to reflect the industry context in which the task takes place.

Assessment strategies should be designed to:

- cover a range of skills and knowledge required to demonstrate achievement of the course aim
- collect evidence on a number of occasions to suit a variety of contexts and situations
- be appropriate to the knowledge, skills, methods of delivery and needs and characteristics of learners
- assist assessors to interpret evidence consistently
- recognise prior learning
- be equitable to all groups of learners.

A variety of assessment methods and evidence gathering techniques may be used with the overriding consideration being that the combined assessment must stress demonstrable performance by the student. Assessment tools must take into account the requirements of the unit in terms of skills, knowledge and performance.

A range of assessment methods may be used, such as:

- analysis of responses to case studies and scenarios
- oral and written questioning related to underpinning knowledge
- practical demonstration of activities which combine a number of learning outcomes to provide depth and context to the training
- holistic assessment that reflects realistic job tasks.

### **Roleplays**

Where roleplays are used in assessment, they must be conducted safely. At minimum it is required that the RTO have processes and resources in place for risk mitigation and student support which relate specifically to assessing the units in this course.

To support the safety of role plays, the following strategies are suggested:

- students responding to a pre-recorded video of an adult using family violence
- VET trainers/assessors or actors playing the role of the adult using family violence

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>students are provided a script for the role of an adult using family violence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Imported units</b> Assessment strategies for units of competency imported from other accredited courses must reflect the assessment requirements specified in the source training product.</p>
<p><b>6.2 Assessor competencies</b></p>	<p>Assessment must be undertaken by a person or persons in accordance with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standard 1.4 of the AQTF: Essential Conditions and Standards for Initial/Continuing Registration and Guidelines 3 of the VRQA Guidelines for VET Providers,</li> </ul> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 (SRTOs),</li> </ul> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the relevant standards and Guidelines for RTOs at the time of assessment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Imported units</b> Assessment of units of competency imported from other accredited courses must be undertaken by a person or persons who meet the requirements for assessors specified in the source training product.</p>
<p><b>7. Delivery</b></p>	<p><b>Standards 5.12, 5.13 and 5.14 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b></p>
<p><b>7.1 Delivery modes</b></p>	<p>This course may be delivered in a variety of modes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educational setting</li> <li>Workplace or simulated workplace</li> <li>Blended learning</li> </ul> <p>Delivery methods should allow for self-directed development and achievement, independent and peer to peer judgement and accountability for a high standard of outcomes.</p> <p>It is highly recommended that Registered Training Organisations use additional educational support mechanisms to maximise each learner's completion of the course. An initial assessment of learner's needs must be conducted during entry into the course to identify the need for language, literacy and numeracy support and reasonable adjustment.</p> <p>Trainers and assessors should contextualise delivery of the course in response to learner needs, while still meeting the requirements of the units of competency.</p> <p><b>Delivery to current workforce</b> Due to considerations of time-release from the workplace, it is highly recommended that delivery to learners who are currently working in core support or mainstream service organisations be via a blended learning mode. RTOs should also ensure that the face-to-face delivery</p>



volume reflects the employer’s capacity to release their employees from normal work duties.

## 7.2 Resources

Training must be undertaken by a person or persons in accordance with:

- Standard 1.4 of the AQTF: Essential Conditions and Standards for Initial/Continuing Registration and Guideline 3 of the VRQA Guidelines for VET Providers,

OR

- the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 (SRTOs),

OR

- the relevant standards and Guidelines for RTOs at the time of assessment.

Delivery and assessment materials should reflect the local work environment as far as possible.

Resources must include:

- Documentation relevant to enable a family violence intermediate risk assessment, comprising:
  - Appropriate tools for risk assessment that have been developed in accordance with Victoria’s *Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework* (MARAM Framework)
  - Case notes
  - Identification and screening information
  - The *Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework* approved in Victoria by the relevant minister under section 189 of the Family Violence Protection Act (FVPA) – known as the MARAM Framework
  - Referral resources
- Appropriate environment to facilitate a safe space for uninterrupted communication
- Any relevant family violence legislation, policies, procedures and standards applicable to core support or mainstream services professionals in Victoria.

Trainers/assessors should refer to the individual units of competency for specific resource requirements.

## 8. Pathways and articulation

### Standard 5.10 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses

There are no formal articulation arrangements in place.

	<p>Individuals will receive credit for any units of competency completed as part of this course if they enrol in further training where those units are part of the qualification/course.</p> <p>Likewise, individuals who have already completed relevant imported units of competency from previous training, will be granted a credit for those units in this course.</p> <p>Refer to the <a href="#">AQF Qualifications Pathways Policy (AQF 2nd Edition, 2013)</a>.</p>
<p><b>9. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation</b></p>	<p><b>Standard 5.15 AQTF 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses</b></p>
	<p>The Curriculum Maintenance Manager for Human Services is responsible for the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of this course.</p> <p>A review of the course will take place at the mid-point of the accreditation period. Feedback will be sought via surveys or one-on-one consultations from the project steering committee involved in the reaccreditation of this course, RTOs who deliver the course and other key stakeholders.</p> <p>The Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) will be notified of significant changes to the course/s resulting from course monitoring and evaluation processes.</p>

## Section C – Units of competency

The following unit of competency has been developed for this course and is attached in this section:

- VU23432 - Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk

## Imported Units

### Imported from Accredited Courses

The following unit of competency from *22660VIC Course in Identifying and Responding to Family Violence Risk* can be accessed from the Victorian Government website ([here](#)):

- VU23650 - Identify and respond to family violence risk

<b>Unit code</b>	<b>VU23432</b>
<b>Unit title</b>	<b>Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk</b>
<b>Application</b>	<p>This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to undertake intermediate family violence risk assessment and management, in accordance with Victoria's <i>Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) Framework</i>.</p> <p>The unit applies to those working within mainstream and supporting services that may need to respond to warning signs, risk factors and the impacts of family violence such as people in crisis situations or at high risk of experiencing or using family violence.</p> <p>These workers are in sectors where disclosure of family violence is more likely to occur and whose core business may not be directly related to family violence, but will be engaging with people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at risk of experiencing family violence</li> <li>• in crisis situations from family violence</li> <li>• who are using family violence.</li> </ul> <p><i>No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</i></p>
<b>Pre-requisite Unit(s)</b>	VU23650 Identify and respond to family violence risk
<b>Competency Field</b>	090501 Social Work
<b>Unit Sector</b>	N/A

<b>Element</b>		<b>Performance Criteria</b>	
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.</i>		<i>Performance criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the assessment requirements.</i>	
1.	Prepare to assess and manage family violence risk	1.1	Determine if the individual is a victim survivor or adult using family violence, and if any child or young person is impacted by the family violence as a victim survivor
		1.2	Obtain informed consent, where required, from the individual to collect, record and share information and for risk assessment and management referrals
		1.3	Work with relevant services throughout engagement to identify the predominant aggressor and if there are multiple people using violence
		1.4	Determine and select appropriate tools for undertaking intermediate risk assessment appropriate to the individual, in accordance with Victoria's <i>Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk</i>

			<i>Assessment and Management (MARAM) Framework</i> and organisational policies and procedures
2.	Undertake intermediate family violence risk assessment	2.1	Apply relevant engagement approaches appropriate to the individual, including using a trauma and violence-informed approach, in accordance with the MARAM Framework
		2.2	Conduct intermediate risk assessment with the individual using Structured Professional Judgement and the MARAM Intermediate risk assessment tools and resources appropriate to the individual
		2.3	Seek and share risk-relevant information, in accordance with the MARAM Framework and information sharing laws and regulations
		2.4	Provide secondary consultation when requested by other relevant intervention professionals
3.	Develop, implement and monitor risk management strategies	3.1	Determine where it is appropriate to work in collaboration with the individual throughout the risk management process, in accordance with the MARAM Framework
		3.2	Develop and implement risk management strategies, including safety plans, using Structured Professional Judgement, a trauma and violence-informed approach and in accordance with the MARAM Framework
		3.3	Determine appropriate responses where risk assessment has identified victim survivors require immediate protection, the adult using family violence is at risk of self-harm or suicide and requires immediate intervention, or where an immediate risk is presented to third parties
		3.4	Identify protective factors to support the safety of the victim survivor and contribute to the strengthening and promotion of these factors
		3.5	Facilitate warm referrals to and active engagement with appropriate services, including identifying and addressing barriers to service access
		3.6	Identify when complexity of risk and/or level of risk indicates need for referral to specialist family violence services for comprehensive risk assessment
		3.7	Monitor and update risk management strategies and safety plans as required, in accordance with scope of own role and the MARAM Framework
		3.8	Comply with organisational documentation and reporting requirements, including mandatory reporting and information sharing



4.	Maintain health, safety and wellbeing in the workplace	4.1	Identify OHS/WHS protocols and organisational policies and procedures for workplace health, safety and wellbeing for self and colleagues
		4.2	Recognise and minimise risks to own wellbeing associated with responding to family violence, including identifying the need for supervision, advice and support

### Range Of Conditions

'The individual' within this unit refers to:

- The individual as:
  - adult victim survivor, or
  - victim survivor who is a child or young person, or
  - adult using family violence.

The MARAM Intermediate risk assessment tools and resource are selected and used as relevant to the individual. The MARAM Framework and resources provide guidance on *how* these individuals are engaged with throughout the risk assessment and management process.

### Foundation Skills

*This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance but not explicit in the performance criteria.*

Skill	Description
Reading skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access and interpret a range of textual information relevant to undertaking intermediate risk assessment and management in accordance with the MARAM Framework</li> </ul>
Writing skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• complete required documentation using relevant structure, tone and vocabulary appropriate to audience, context and purpose</li> </ul>
Oral communication skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use active listening and questioning techniques to seek information and confirm understanding</li> <li>• interact and engage with children, young people and adult victim survivors to build rapport</li> <li>• interact and engage with adults using family violence to build rapport in order to keep them in view and manage disengagement</li> </ul>
Problem-solving skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• respond to challenging situations using principles of safe engagement in accordance with the MARAM Framework</li> </ul>
Initiative and enterprise skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine methods of seeking and relaying information in a culturally safe and respectful manner</li> </ul>

Self-management skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>follow organisational policies, procedures and MARAM Framework requirements in relation to responding to family violence risk</li> </ul>
Technology skills to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use the main features and functions of digital tools to complete work tasks and access information</li> </ul>

<b>Unit Mapping Information</b>	<b>Current Version</b>	<b>Previous Version</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	VU23432 - Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk	VU22988 - Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk	Not equivalent.



## Assessment Requirements

<b>Title</b>	<b><i>Assessment Requirements for VU23432 Undertake intermediate assessment and management of family violence risk</i></b>
<b>Performance Evidence</b>	<p>The candidate must demonstrate the ability to complete tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, including evidence that the candidate has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked in accordance with the values, policies, procedures and tools of Victoria’s <i>Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework</i> (MARAM Framework) to undertake intermediate risk assessment and risk management for <b>each</b> of the following three (3) cohorts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ at least one (1) adult victim survivor, and</li> <li>○ at least one (1) victim survivor who is a child or young person (using a non-offending parent/guardian/advocate for information), and</li> <li>○ at least one (1) adult using family violence.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In the course of the above, the candidate must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Intermediate-level risk assessment tools that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ have been developed in accordance with the MARAM Framework requirements</li> <li>○ are the correct tool for the individual.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Develop risk management strategies that are appropriate to the individual.</li> <li>• Engage with individual in a sensitive, safe and respectful way as determined by the MARAM Framework, including using a trauma and violence-informed approach.</li> <li>• Use Structured Professional Judgement to undertake risk assessment and risk management.</li> <li>• Communicate effectively and work with a range of relevant stakeholders, including: colleagues, referral services, and specialist family violence services.</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge Evidence</b>	<p>The candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MARAM Framework responsibilities relevant to undertaking intermediate risk assessment and risk management</li> <li>• MARAM intermediate risk assessment tools and resources that are appropriate to the individual, as per the MARAM practice guidance</li> <li>• Key components of family violence intermediate risk assessment and risk management as identified in the MARAM Framework, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Risk management strategies and safety planning</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



- Documentation
- Legal intervention
- Financial support
- Use and purpose of different risk assessment tools for different types of interactions
- Collaboration
- Model of Structured Professional Judgement:
  - Victim survivor self-assessment
  - Evidence-based risk factors
  - Information sharing
  - Professional judgement, including intersectional analysis
- Adults using family violence narratives and behaviours:
  - Common attitudes that indicate support for use of family violence behaviours including denying, minimising, justifying and blaming
  - Common emotions and thought patterns in relation to the use of violence and engagement with the service
  - Observable narratives and behaviours that indicate or disclose use of family violence
- Conditions that support family violence perpetration
- Key timeframes for assessing and monitoring risk after disclosure or becoming aware of family violence, including any incidents
- How to recognise, respond to and manage disengagement when working with adults using family violence
- The risk of misidentification of victim survivors and adults using violence (predominant aggressor)
- 'In common' risk factors of suicide and use of family violence
- Indicators of homicide-suicide risk (imminent risk) and relevant management techniques
- How to adapt service delivery to the needs of victim survivors and adults using family violence, including but not limited to:
  - Age and/or developmental stage
  - Ability and accessibility requirements
  - When it is appropriate/required to engage an interpreter
  - Identity and culture
  - Readiness and motivation to engage with services, address presenting needs and/or use of family violence (for adults using family violence)
- Experiences of family violence across a wide range of relationship types and communities, including the experience across LGBTIQ+ relationships and for male victim survivors



- Evidence based risk factors and levels of family violence risk
- How to identify the presenting needs and circumstances of victim survivors and adults who use family violence
- Strategies for undertaking ongoing and collaborative monitoring, assessment and management of family violence risk to identify changes over time
- The purpose of collaborative case management and coordinated multi-agency responses to family violence
- Referral pathways, specific service options and other appropriate targeted or therapeutic services to meet the ongoing needs of:
  - Victim survivors (including children and young people)
  - Adults using family violence
- Strategies and techniques for:
  - Centring the lived experience and risk of the victim-survivor throughout:
    - risk assessment and management
    - engagement with adults using family violence
  - Addressing complex needs when assessing and managing risk with adults using family violence
  - Respectful, sensitive and safe engagement
  - Starting the conversation about risk management
  - Talking to a child victim survivor about their parent who is a person using family violence
  - Determining if a risk assessment can be undertaken directly with the child or young person victim survivor, or if it should be undertaken using the non-offending parent/guardian/advocate as the source of relevant information
  - Working with adults using family violence, including:
    - Person-in-context approach
    - Talking to adults using family violence about their parenting role and determining whether it is safe, appropriate and reasonable to use parenting as a motivator in risk management
    - Keeping the adult using family violence in view and accountable
  - Safe and non-collusive practice
  - Trauma and violence-informed practice
  - Working with victim survivors using a person-centred approach
  - Safely navigating attempts by adults using family violence to invite collusion

- Recognising and managing the impact of own lived experience on professional practice and wellbeing, including reflective practice
- How to identify the needs of victim survivors and adults using family violence across all cohorts and communities and provide responses that are accessible, culturally responsive and safe
- The role of:
  - Justice and law enforcement response
  - Coordinated risk management, including Risk Assessment and Management Panels (RAMPs)
  - The Orange Door
  - Key organisations and services specialising in working with diverse communities
  - Protective Interveners, including their responsibilities and obligations under Victoria's *Children, Youth and Families Act 2005*
- Information sharing:
  - Relevant information sharing laws and regulations that apply in Victoria and how these interface with undertaking intermediate family violence risk assessment and management
  - Limited confidentiality
  - Consent:
    - When consent is and is not required for information sharing and referrals
    - The range of risk management strategies that may be put in place on behalf of victim survivors and do not require their consent
  - What constitutes risk-relevant information, as defined in the MARAM Framework
  - Sources of risk-relevant information
  - Information Sharing Entities (ISEs) and Risk Assessment Entities (RAEs), and when and how information can be shared (including under Freedom of Information (FOI) Act)
- That obtaining informed consent from the individual must include:
  - Ensuring the individual is able to:
    - understand the information relevant to the decision and the effect of the decision
    - retain the information to the extent necessary to make the decision
    - use or weigh that information as part of the process of making the decision
    - communicate their decision, views and needs in some way (including speech, gestures or other means).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Informing the individual of circumstances where their consent is not required</li> <li>• Appropriate responses where victim survivors are at serious and immediate risk and threat of harm from family violence, including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Notifying police</li> <li>- Making a report to Child Protection (where children are involved)</li> <li>- Contacting the local specialist family violence services, based on the victim survivor's current place of residence</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How the act of recording and documenting information may increase risk for victim survivors</li> <li>• Legal implications of family violence and referral pathways for the following, but not limited to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visa status</li> <li>- Rental agreements</li> <li>- Implications of Family Violence Intervention Orders (FVIOs) and their conditions</li> <li>- Breach orders</li> <li>- Family Law Court orders compared to FVIOs</li> <li>- What constitutes criminal offending compared to what constitutes civil offending</li> <li>- Powers of Attorney</li> <li>- Guardianship</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Key protective factors for both adult and child victim survivors to effectively mitigate risk</li> <li>• Key protective factors for adults using family violence, and how they can impact the safety of both adult and child victim survivors</li> <li>• Secondary consultation relevant to own industry sector and job role, including processes for providing and seeking expertise</li> <li>• That own lived experience may be a potential source of:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding of the experiences of victim survivors</li> <li>- Conscious and unconscious bias</li> <li>- Trauma</li> <li>- Collusion</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Key behavioural signs of reduced health and wellbeing in self and others</li> <li>• Methods for supporting colleagues to seek supervision, advice and support for health and wellbeing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Assessment Conditions</b></p>	<p>Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions. Simulated or project-based/case study assessment techniques must replicate conditions, activities, responsibilities and procedures of industry.</p>



Where roleplays are used in assessment, they must be conducted safely. At minimum it is required that the RTO have processes and resources in place for risk mitigation and student support which relate specifically to assessing this unit.

Assessment must include access to:

- Documentation relevant to enable a family violence intermediate risk assessment, comprising:
  - Appropriate tools for risk assessment that have been developed in accordance with Victoria's *Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework* (MARAM Framework)
  - Case notes
  - Identification and screening information
  - The *Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework* approved in Victoria by the relevant minister under section 189 of the Family Violence Protection Act (FVPA) – known as the MARAM Framework
  - Referral resources
- Appropriate environment to facilitate a safe space for uninterrupted communication

#### **Assessor requirements**

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable Vocational Educational and Training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

No specialist vocational competency requirements for assessors apply to this unit.