

VICTORIAN PURCHASING GUIDE

# MSL LABORATORY OPERATIONS TRAINING PACKAGE RELEASE 4.0

APRIL 2023



Jobs, Skills,  
Industry  
and Regions

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# VICTORIAN PURCHASING GUIDE – RELEASE HISTORY

Note: RTOs should refer to the [National Register](#) for the detail of changes in each Release.

Training Package Release	Date VPG Approved	Comments
Release 4.0	19 April 2023	<p>The MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package Release 4.0 reflects the revision and recoding of all five MSL qualifications, all of which remain equivalent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MSL20122 Certificate II in Sampling and Measurement</li><li>• MSL30122 Certificate III in Laboratory Skills</li><li>• MSL40122 Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques</li><li>• MSL50122 Diploma of Laboratory Technology</li><li>• MSL60122 Advanced Diploma of Laboratory Management</li></ul> <p>59 units have been revised with two deleted. Three new units in surgical cut-up have been developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MSL974037 Triage and allocate tissue specimens</li><li>• MSL974038 Use techniques to complete simple tissue specimen transfers</li><li>• MSL975072 Use surgical cut-up techniques for non-complex tissue specimen</li></ul> <p>For detailed mapping of qualifications and units between MSL Release 4.0 and MSL Releases 3.0,3.1 and 3.2, please refer to the MSL <a href="#">Companion Volume</a> Implementation Guide.</p>
Release 3.2	December 2021	<p>The MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package Minor Release 3.2 reflects the reinstatement of the following unit in MSL50118 Diploma of Laboratory Technology. This unit was previously deleted as part of MSL Release 3.1 listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MSL975043 Prepare animal and plant material for display</li></ul> <p>For detailed mapping of qualifications and units between MSL Release 3.2 and MSL Release 3.1 please refer to the MSL <a href="#">Companion Volume</a> Implementation Guide.</p>
Release 3.1	28 May 2021	<p>The MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package minor Release 3.1 reflects the deletion of training products with low or no enrolments, as instructed by the Commonwealth Skills Minister and authorised by the AISC Communiqués issued on 2 December 2020 and 23 February 2021.</p> <p>The following (8) units have been deleted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MSL905006 Create or modify automated calibration procedures</li><li>• MSL955002 Supervise a robotic sample preparation system</li><li>• MSL974024 Undertake field-based, remote-sensing monitoring</li><li>• MSL974027 Monitor performance of structures</li><li>• MSL975043 Prepare animal and plant material for display</li><li>• MSL975053 Perform complex laboratory testing of forensic samples</li><li>• MSL975054 Perform physical examination of forensic samples</li></ul>

Training Package Release	Date VPG Approved	Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSL976004 Prepare plans and quality assurance procedures for environmental field activities</li> </ul> <p>For detailed mapping of qualifications and units between MSL Release 3.1 and MSL Release 3.0 please refer to the MSL <a href="#">Companion Volume Implementation Guide</a>.</p>
Release 3.0	15 July 2020	<p>This amended Victorian Purchasing Guide V3.1 for MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package Release 3.0 reflects an increase in the nominal hours from 40 to 80 for the following unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSL974030 Process body fluid specimens using a point of care testing device.</li> </ul>
Release 3.0	1 June 2020	<p>Release 3.0 of the MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package incorporates the addition of the following new elective unit of competency to the MSL40118 Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques and MSL50118 Diploma of Laboratory Technology, with both remaining equivalent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSL974030 Process body fluid specimens using a point of care testing device.</li> </ul>
Release 2.0	7 September 2018	<p>Release 2.0 of the MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package incorporates changes to the MSL40118 Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques and MSL50118 Diploma of Laboratory Technology; in particular, new entry requirements to the Diploma.</p> <p>The codes for the remaining three qualifications in this release have been updated but the qualifications remain equivalent.</p> <p>There are two new units, a new merged unit and while the majority of existing units are equivalent, they have been updated and recoded: The new and merged units are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSL954003 Relate anatomical and physiological features to laboratory samples</li> <li>MSL975028 Apply advanced embedding and microtomy skills</li> <li>MSL974016 Perform physical and mechanical tests (formerly MSL974005 and MSL974010)</li> </ul>
Release 1.0	24 April 2016	<p>The MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package reflects the transitioning of the MSL09 Laboratory Operations Training Package to the new Standards for Training Packages.</p> <p>This Victorian Purchasing Guide also reflects the changes made from Maximum Nominal Hours to Maximum and Minimum Payable Hours.</p>

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	1
What is a Victorian Purchasing Guide? .....	1
Registration .....	1
Transition .....	1
QUALIFICATIONS .....	2
UNITS OF COMPETENCY AND NOMINAL HOURS.....	3
CONTACTS AND LINKS.....	8
INDUSTRY AND REGULATORY BODIES.....	9
GLOSSARY .....	10

# INTRODUCTION

## What is a Victorian Purchasing Guide?

The Victorian Purchasing Guide provides information for use by Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) in the provision of Victorian government subsidised training.

Specifically, the Victorian Purchasing Guide provides the following information related to the delivery of nationally endorsed Training Packages in Victoria:

- The maximum and minimum payable hours available for each qualification.
- Nominal hours for each unit of competency within the Training Package.

## Registration

RTOs must be registered by either the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) or the Australian Skills Qualification Authority (ASQA) regulatory body to be eligible to issue qualifications and Statements of Attainment under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).

The VRQA is the regulatory authority in Victoria responsible for the registration of Vocational Education and Training (VET) providers who offer courses to domestic students in Victoria only.

ASQA is the regulatory authority responsible for the registration of VET providers who offer training in Victoria, nationally and / or internationally.

## Transition

The relationship between new units and any superseded or replaced units from the previous version of MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package Release 4.0 is provided in the Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide. (See [VETnet.gov.au](http://VETnet.gov.au) for more information).

Information regarding transition arrangements can be obtained from the state or national VET Regulatory Authority (see [Contacts and Links](#) section).

RTOs must ensure that all training and assessment leading to issuance of qualifications or Statements of Attainment from the of MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package Release 4.0 is conducted against the Training Package units of competency and complies with the assessment requirements.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Code	Title	Minimum Payable Hours	Maximum Payable Hours
MSL20122	Certificate II in Sampling and Measurement	314	330
MSL30122	Certificate III in Laboratory Skills	684	720
MSL40122	Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques	1264	1330
MSL50122	Diploma of Laboratory Technology	1463	1540
MSL60122	Advanced Diploma of Laboratory Management	627	660

## UNITS OF COMPETENCY AND NOMINAL HOURS

Unit Code	Unit Title	Nominal Hours
MSL904003	Perform standard calibrations	50
MSL905004	Perform non-standard calibrations	60
MSL905005	Create or modify calibration procedures	40
MSL912002	Work within a laboratory or field workplace	40
MSL913004	Plan and conduct laboratory/field work	40
MSL914002	Prepare practical science classes and demonstrations	60
MSL915003	Provide information to customers	30
MSL915004	Schedule laboratory work for a small team	50
MSL916011	Develop and maintain laboratory documentation	30
MSL916012	Manage and develop teams	40
MSL916013	Supervise laboratory operations in work or functional area	60
MSL916014	Maintain compliance in work or functional area	50
MSL916015	Manage complex projects	50
MSL922002	Record and present data	40
MSL924005	Process and interpret data	70
MSL924006	Use laboratory application software	60
MSL925005	Analyse measurements and estimate uncertainties	90
MSL925006	Analyse data and report results	80
MSL933005	Maintain the laboratory/field workplace fit for purpose	30
MSL933007	Apply critical control point requirements	40
MSL933008	Perform calibration checks on equipment and assist with its maintenance	40



Unit Code	Unit Title	Nominal Hours
MSL933009	Contribute to the achievement of quality objectives	30
MSL934008	Maintain instruments and equipment	60
MSL934009	Apply quality system and continuous improvement processes	80
MSL934010	Maintain and control stocks	50
MSL935005	Authorise the issue of test results	60
MSL935006	Assist in the maintenance of reference materials	30
MSL935008	Monitor the quality of test results and data	50
MSL936005	Maintain quality system and continuous improvement processes within work or functional area	50
MSL936006	Conduct an internal audit of the quality system	40
MSL943003	Work safely with instruments that emit ionising radiation	60
MSL943004	Participate in laboratory or field workplace safety	40
MSL944002	Maintain laboratory or field workplace safety	50
MSL946003	Implement and monitor WHS and environmental management systems	60
MSL952003	Collect routine site samples	30
MSL952004	Handle and transport samples or equipment	30
MSL953004	Operate a robotic sample preparation system	60
MSL953005	Receive and prepare samples for testing	30
MSL954005	Prepare mineral samples for analysis	60
MSL954006	Relate anatomical and physiological features to laboratory samples	100
MSL954007	Obtain representative samples in accordance with sampling plan	50
MSL972002	Take routine site measurements	30

Unit Code	Unit Title	Nominal Hours
MSL973015	Prepare culture media	30
MSL973017	Assist with fieldwork	40
MSL973018	Prepare trial batches for evaluation	40
MSL973021	Conduct field-based acceptance tests for construction materials	60
MSL973022	Conduct laboratory-based acceptance tests for construction materials	50
MSL973023	Perform fire pouring techniques	50
MSL973024	Perform site investigation activities	40
MSL973025	Perform basic tests	60
MSL973026	Prepare working solutions	50
MSL973027	Perform techniques that prevent cross-contamination	40
MSL973028	Perform microscopic examination	40
MSL973029	Perform histological procedures	40
MSL974016	Perform physical and mechanical tests	140
MSL974018	Conduct geotechnical site investigations	60
MSL974022	Undertake environmental field-based monitoring	80
MSL974023	Capture and manage scientific images	40
MSL974026	Perform tests to determine the properties of construction materials	90
MSL974028	Classify soils	80
MSL974029	Operate an automated mineral analysis system	60
MSL974031	Prepare, standardise and use solutions	100
MSL974032	Perform chemical tests and procedures	100
MSL974033	Perform food tests	100

Unit Code	Unit Title	Nominal Hours
MSL974034	Perform biological procedures	130
MSL974035	Prepare tissue or cell cultures	50
MSL974036	Process body fluid specimens using a point of care testing device	80
MSL974037	Triage and allocate tissue specimens	30
MSL974038	Use techniques to complete simple tissue specimen transfers	60
MSL975032	Provide input to production trials	40
MSL975038	Conduct sensory analysis	40
MSL975041	Perform fire assay techniques	60
MSL975042	Design and supervise complex environmental field surveys	40
MSL975043	Prepare animal and plant material for display	50
MSL975044	Perform complex tests to measure engineering properties of materials	40
MSL975051	Supervise geotechnical site investigations	80
MSL975052	Locate, record and collect forensic samples	90
MSL975055	Classify building sites	80
MSL975056	Perform advanced histological techniques	150
MSL975057	Perform histological tests	200
MSL975058	Perform immunohaematological tests	80
MSL975059	Supervise sampling, inspections and testing at construction sites	80
MSL975060	Perform tissue or cell culture techniques	100
MSL975061	Perform molecular biology tests and procedures	150
MSL975062	Perform microbiological tests	140

Unit Code	Unit Title	Nominal Hours
MSL975063	Perform haematological tests	130
MSL975064	Perform chemical pathology tests	130
MSL975065	Apply electrophoretic techniques	100
MSL975066	Apply routine chromatographic techniques	120
MSL975067	Perform complex tests to measure chemical properties of materials	50
MSL975068	Apply complex instrumental techniques	50
MSL975069	Apply routine spectrometric techniques	150
MSL975070	Apply routine electrometric techniques	40
MSL975071	Perform food analyses	60
MSL975072	Use surgical cut-up techniques for non-complex tissue specimens	120
MSL975073	Perform laboratory- based ecological techniques	60
MSL976006	Evaluate and select appropriate test methods and/or procedures	40
MSL977009	Validate test methods	40
MSL977010	Contribute to the development of products or applications	60
MSL977011	Troubleshoot equipment and/or production processes	50
MSL977012	Develop or adapt analyses and procedures	50

## CONTACTS AND LINKS

### **Curriculum Maintenance Manager (CMM) Service**

#### **General Manufacturing**

The CMM Service is provided on behalf of Higher Education and Skills.

CMM Service Executive Officers can assist with questions on payable and nominal hours.

CMM Name: Paul Saunders.

Institute: Chisholm Institute.

Address: P.O Box 684, Dandenong, Victoria, 3175.

Phone: 03 9238 8448

Email: [paul.saunders@chisholm.edu.au](mailto:paul.saunders@chisholm.edu.au)

### **Jobs and Skills Council (JSC) – Manufacturing Jobs And Skills Council**

The Manufacturing Jobs And Skills Council (IBSA Group) is responsible for developing the MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package and can be contacted for further information.

Address: Level 5, 534 Church Street, Cremorne, Victoria, 3121.

Phone: (03) 9815 7099

Email: [manufacturing@ibsa.org.au](mailto:manufacturing@ibsa.org.au)

Website: <https://ibsa.org.au/>

### **National Register of VET in Australia - Training.gov.au (TGA)**

TGA is the Australian government's official National Register of information on Training Packages, qualifications, courses, units of competency and RTOs. See [training.gov.au](http://training.gov.au) for more information.

### **Australian Government - Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)**

The Commonwealth Department is responsible for national policies and programmes that help Australians access quality vocational education and training. See [Skills and Training - DEWR](#) for more information.

### **State Government - Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR)**

DJSIR (formerly Department of Education and Training) is the State Training Authority responsible for supporting implementation of Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Victoria. See [djsir.vic.gov.au](http://djsir.vic.gov.au) for more information. (03) 9637 2000

### **National VET Regulatory Authority - Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)**

ASQA is the national regulator for Australia's VET sector. Info line: 1300 701 801 See [asqa.gov.au](http://asqa.gov.au) for more information.

### **State VET Regulatory Authority - Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA)**

The VRQA is a statutory authority responsible for the registration and regulation of Victorian RTOs and for the regulation of apprenticeships and traineeships in Victoria. (03) 9637 2806 See [vrqa.vic.gov.au](http://vrqa.vic.gov.au)

## INDUSTRY REGULATORY BODIES

### **WorkSafe Victoria**

The industry Regulatory body can provide advice on licensing, legislative or regulatory requirements which may impact on the delivery of training or the issuance of qualifications in this Training Package. WorkSafe needs to provide written verification before high risk work units can be added to an RTO's scope of registration. [info@worksafe.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@worksafe.vic.gov.au) See [worksafe.vic.gov.au](http://worksafe.vic.gov.au) for further information.

222 Exhibition Street,  
Melbourne 3000  
(03) 9641 1444 or  
1800 136 089 (toll free)

## GLOSSARY

<b>Code</b>	Nationally endorsed Training Package qualification code.
<b>Title</b>	Nationally endorsed Training Package qualification title.
<b>Unit Code</b>	Nationally endorsed Training Package unit code.
<b>Unit Title</b>	Nationally endorsed Training Package unit title.
<b>Maximum Payable Hours</b>	<p>The maximum number of hours the Victorian Government will subsidise under Skills First funding for the achievement of the minimum realistic vocational outcome of the qualification, as determined by the qualification packaging rules. The Maximum Payable Hours do not cover every possible combination of core and elective units available for a specific qualification.</p> <p>Minimum payable hours reflect a calculated minimum number of hours that could deliver a minimum realistic vocational outcome, based on efficiencies of contextualisation and integration.</p>
<b>Scope of Registration</b>	Scope of registration specifies the AQF qualifications and/or units of competency the training organisation is registered to issue and the industry training and/or assessment services it is registered to provide.
<b>Nominal Hours</b>	Nominal hours reflect the anticipated time taken to deliver and assess the outcomes of a unit of competency excluding unsupervised delivery or the time taken for repeated practical application of skills. Nominal hours are determined by the Victorian State Training Authority (DJSIR) and are primarily developed for funding purposes in Victoria.