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# Vocational Placement Information

[Insert your RTO’s Name here] would like to thank you for choosing to take part in Vocational Placement. We believe that the environment you provide, and the experience of your supervisory staff will provide a great learning environment for candidates.

Your involvement will help the candidates who undertake placement with you gain the experience and skills required for their course and their future in the industry.

Vocational Placement falls under the following requirement:

* The current Fair Work Act

**Please be sure to read all of this information carefully, as it is crucial to understand your role in Vocational Placement.**

## How Does My Organisation Benefit?

Through your active involvement in vocational placement, you will:

* be able to contribute to increasing the workplace relevance of education,
* provide existing employees with opportunities to train others, thus refining any training processes that you currently use or providing an opportunity to create efficient workplace training procedures,
* have an opportunity to train a candidate without financial obligation (someone that you may wish to consider for employment in the future), and
* benefit in the short term – sharing the workload in day-to-day tasks with the assistance a candidate can provide.

## Are There Any Costs?

There are no direct financial costs involved with having a candidate placement. However, there will be a cost in terms of the time that it takes supervisors to train candidates and undertake the assessment paperwork. This cost in terms of time can be offset by the assistance a candidate can provide during their placement.

Usually, candidates are not paid for their time in work placement. If you decide to employ the candidate or pay them for their work, you need to contact [Insert your RTO’s Name here]’s Vocational Placement Coordinator.

Choosing to employ the candidate may make you responsible for insurance, and worker’s compensation should the candidate injure themselves or someone else.

# Who is Involved in Vocational Placement?

# An Overview of the Process for Organising Vocational Placement

Outlined below is an overview of the process in the organisation of vocational placement through [Insert your RTO’s name here].

1. Before vocational placement, the candidate organises and completes police checks and first aid certification.
2. The candidate contacts a vocational placement provider/supervisor of a service to discuss vocational placement potential.
3. The candidate provides the interested vocational placement provider with the *Vocational Placement Provider/Supervisor Information Pack.*
4. The candidate advises their RTO’s vocational placement coordinator of the contact details of the interested potential vocational placement provider.
5. The vocational placement coordinator contacts the placement provider and checks their willingness to participate and suitability for placement.
6. The suitability of the nominated vocational placement provider is confirmed. If the vocational placement provider is NOT suitable, return to step 2.
7. The vocational placement coordinator sends the *Training Plan* and *Vocational Placement Agreement* to the candidate.

The vocational placement provider and the candidate sign the *Vocational Placement Agreement*, and the candidate returns the signed agreement to the vocational placement coordinator for sign-off.

1. ONLY once the *Vocational Placement Agreement* is signed by all parties can candidates start vocational placement.

The vocational placement coordinator will provide the candidate and the vocational placement provider/supervisor with a copy of the *Vocational Placement Agreement* signed by all parties before placement commencing.

1. The candidate begins vocational placement:
   1. The candidate receives instruction and workplace-based training from the vocational placement supervisor.
   2. The candidate completes the assessment activities in the skills workbook while supervised by their supervisor and observed by their assessor.
   3. The candidate demonstrates the required skills while being observed by their assessor.
   4. The candidate organises and submits their evidence to their assessor for assessment.
2. The assessor reviews and assesses the candidate’s evidence submissions, skills workbook, and supervisor’s observations and feedback.
3. The assessor publishes the candidate's assessment results for the candidate to view.

# Candidates Locate Vocational Placement

It is the candidate’s responsibility to find a place to undertake their vocational placement and introduce themselves to their vocational placement provider/supervisor.

They should approach your organisation with a *Letter of Introduction* that has been written by the Vocational Placement Coordinator at [Insert your RTO’s name here].

# Liaising With the Vocational Placement Coordinator

Once the candidate has initiated contact with you, they will convey this information to their Vocational Placement Coordinator.

The Vocational Placement Coordinator will then contact you and discuss the possibility of a candidate undertaking their vocational placement with your organisation.

This is an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have and the Vocational Placement Coordinator to confirm whether a placement opportunity is possible.

# What Are My Responsibilities?

## Duty of Care, Legislation, and Insurance

As a place of employment, the vocational placement provider has certain responsibilities, such as their duty of care to all the people within their workplace. This extends to candidates undertaking vocational placement.

Candidates undertaking vocational placement are also considered employees in terms of your responsibility to them under relevant Work Health and Safety and Equal Opportunity legislation.

[Insert your RTO’s name here] has insurance that covers candidates. To be covered by this insurance, the *Vocational Placement Agreement* must be signed by all parties and returned to [Insert your RTO’s name here] before commencing the vocational placement.

## Important Information

### Mandatory Vocational Placement Hours

The unit **CHCCCS040 - Support independence and wellbeing (Release 1)** requires the candidate to complete a minimum of 120 hours of Vocational Placement in at least one aged care, home and community, disability or community service organisation.

The total number of hours may be applied collectively across all units of competency in the qualification that the candidate is completing.

Vocational Placement Time Log

As evidence of the candidate’s successful completion of the mandatory workplace hours, they are required to log the time they spend in vocational placement through the **Vocational Placement Time Log.**

The template and instructions for completing this are provided along with the Vocational Placement Information Packs.

Calendar

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A Candidate on Vocational Placement is Not a Replacement for Paid Work

Candidates are placed with vocational placement providers to get on-the-job experience, learn, and help with the workload. However, they are not intended to replace paid employees. Their vocational placement should not directly result in reduced hours for which other workers would usually be paid to work.

According to the current Fair Work Act regarding Student Placements, candidates in vocational placement are not entitled to be paid remuneration for the vocational placement. However, a vocational placement provider may choose to pay candidates at their own discretion if they wish.

## Supervision of the Candidate

Supervision in the vocational context includes oversight, direction, guidance, and support either directly or indirectly.

As the vocational placement provider and supervisor, you have a responsibility to the candidate to:

1. provide supervised learning opportunities within a safe environment, which meet the objectives of the training plan,
2. keep all of the candidate’s details confidential and provide them with the same privacy and confidentiality afforded to staff,
3. carry out a thorough and documented orientation and induction of the candidate at the commencement of the vocational placement,
4. familiarise the candidate with worksite, amenities, equipment, relevant staff, reporting structure, and coaching support,
5. select learning experiences for the candidate in accordance with the training plan, and
6. review and sign-off on the candidate’s skills workbook and other evidence and provide feedback to the candidate on their progress.

## The Training Plan and Vocational Placement Agreement Form

Once you have ascertained that all parties have the same expectations, the next step is to review the candidate’s *Training Plan* and *Vocational Placement Agreement*.

The *Vocational Placement Agreement* must be signed by the candidate and the vocational placement provider.

The candidate will send back the signed agreement to their vocational placement coordinator, who will check if it has been completed correctly and entirely.

The vocational placement coordinator will then send copies of the signed agreement to all parties.

This process needs to be completed before the start of the vocational placement.

**IMPORTANT**

**Candidates MUST NOT commence their Vocational Placement until all parties have received a copy of the signed Vocational Placement Agreement.**

**If the Vocational Placement Agreement is not completed, the candidate will not be covered by insurance.**

## The Skills Workbook

The assessment for **CHCCCS040 - Support independence and wellbeing (Release 1)** includes a Skills Workbook component.

The candidate takes this Skills Workbook with them to be completed during their vocational placement.

This Skills Workbook contains:

* Assessment activities the candidate needs to complete during their vocational placement.
* Instructions and guidance for completing these activities satisfactorily.
* Assessment forms and templates that need to be accomplished as part of the assessment.
* List of evidence they need to provide and submit to their assessor.

The candidate must review and discuss the Skills Workbook with their vocational placement supervisor on the first day of vocational placement.

The role of the vocational placement supervisor then is to:

* Organise opportunities within the vocational placement setting where the candidate can complete these assessment activities.
* Facilitate candidate’s access to the resources and conditions required for assessment.
* Provide instruction and guidance and supervise the candidate as they undertake these assessment activities within the vocational placement setting.
* Review and sign-off on the candidate’s evidence submissions and provide further verification and authentication to these submissions.

The Skills Workbook, along with other evidence, are then submitted by the candidate to [Insert your RTO’s name here].

The assessor uses the information within the Skills Workbook and evidence to decide whether the candidate can be deemed satisfactory at the tasks.

A picture containing whiteboard

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For Skills Workbook-related Questions or Concerns

Should you have any concerns or questions about the candidate’s Skills Workbook, please contact the [Insert your RTO’s Name here] Vocational Placement Coordinator, and they will assist you with any queries you may have.

**Graphical user interface, website

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## Specific Requirements for Vocational Placement Provider

Due to the requirements of the unit of competency, the candidate’s nominated vocational placement provider must provide the candidate access to the following to complete the assessments included in the skills workbook.

* **A workplace that provides frontline support services to individuals within the context of their established individualised plan.**
* **A support or care worker within the workplace specified above.**

Additionally, listed below are the workplace resources and assessment conditions required for the assessment in this unit of competency. The vocational placement provider must also provide the candidate access to these in addition to those listed above.

|  |
| --- |
| **Conditions required for assessment** |
| * Candidate must perform the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of at least 120 hours of direct support work in at least one aged care, home and community, disability or community service organisation. * Simulations and scenarios where the full range of contexts and situations have not been provided in the workplace. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Assessment must ensure access to** |
| * Where simulation is used it must reflect real working conditions and contingencies by modelling industry operating conditions and contingencies, as well as using suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:   + individualised plans and any relevant equipment outlined in the plan   + modelling of industry operating conditions including real interactions with the person and their families or carers. |

## Dealing With Any Misunderstandings

If a misunderstanding arises while the candidate is on vocational placement, they should first discuss this with you as their Vocational Placement Supervisor and inform their Vocational Placement Coordinator.

Where they find they cannot discuss any misunderstandings with their Vocational Placement Supervisor, they should speak directly with their Vocational Placement Coordinator.

A picture containing text, person, posing

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# What Happens on the Candidate’s First Day?

Treat the first day of a candidate’s vocational placement the same way you would any new employee, including any safety inductions and housekeeping inductions.

Here is a list of topics on which you should provide the relevant information to the candidate.

It is not exhaustive as there may be more specific to your industry and/or work environment.

# What Is Expected of Candidates during Vocational Placement?

Candidates are instructed to treat the vocational placement like they would paid work and behave as much like a new employee as possible. As such, they should:

* complete duties planned by vocational placement providers/supervisors and show a willingness to learn,
* follow any advice and instructions given by vocational placement supervisors and ask questions when they are unsure,
* be well-mannered throughout the vocational placement to all candidates, family and staff members,
* dress appropriately to industry standards and the workplace,
* start each day of the vocational placement on time, attend the vocational placement for the normal hours of work for that job and only take allocated breaks (unless they have negotiated otherwise with the vocational placement supervisor and vocational placement coordinator),
* contact the vocational placement supervisor and vocational placement coordinator if they are unable to attend due to illness or other extenuating circumstances,
* make up any lost time from absences due to unforeseen circumstances,
* work in a safe manner to ensure the safety of themselves and others and report any accidents immediately to the vocational placement supervisor and vocational placement coordinator,
* report any hazards they see to their vocational placement supervisor and wear protective clothing and safety equipment where required, and
* maintain the confidentiality of the organisation and clients – the candidate may ask their vocational placement supervisor what information is considered confidential. The vocational placement supervisor may want to ask the candidate to sign a confidentiality agreement.

# What Happens if the Candidate is Involved in an Accident?

If the candidate is involved in an accident while undertaking vocational placement, the vocational placement supervisor should take similar steps as when an employee is hurt, except that in addition to usual procedures, the Vocational Placement Coordinator will be contacted.

If the candidate is involved in an accident while undertaking vocational placement, the vocational placement provider/supervisor must:

1. Seek Medical Attention immediately.
2. Contact the candidate’s emergency contact, which is included in the Vocational Placement Agreement Form.
3. Ask any doctor or medical practitioner attending to the candidate for a medical certificate.
4. Contact the Vocational Placement Coordinator at [Insert your RTO’s name here] as soon as possible and let them know what has occurred.
5. Complete the Accident/Incident Report Form at the back of this information pack and send this to the Vocational Placement Coordinator at [Insert your RTO’s name here].
6. Follow your standard workplace procedures for dealing with any WHS incidents or Workcover issues if required.

## Returning to Vocational Placement After an Accident

If a candidate injured during a vocational placement is later able to return, the vocational placement provider must ensure the same or an equivalent position for the remaining portion of the original vocational placement as per the agreement.

Before a candidate returns to their vocational placement, the Vocational Placement Coordinator must be satisfied that the workplace is safe, and the candidate will not be at further risk. If the Vocational Placement Coordinator is not satisfied with the safety of the vocational placement, then an alternative vocational placement should be organised.

# Changes to or Cancellation of the Vocational Placement Agreement

The vocational placement supervisor or vocational placement provider must approach the [Insert your RTO’s name here] Vocational Placement Coordinator if they wish to change or cancel the Vocational Placement Agreement.

Any changes or cancellation of the Vocational Placement Agreement must be done in writing and directed to [Insert your RTO’s name here] or the Vocational Placement Coordinator.

# Incident/Injury Report Form

**What should be reported?**

* Incident/accident
* Injury, work caused illness and significant first aid treatment
* Dangerous event or near miss (an incident which could have caused serious injury or extensive property damage but did not)
* Property damage or hazardous activity observed.

**What do you do with this form?**

1. Either complete this form digitally or print the form and complete it manually
2. Send the completed form to the Vocational Placement Coordinator

**If incident only: sections A and D are compulsory.**

**If an injury has occurred: the entire form must be completed.**

For assistance in completing this form, contact the Vocational Placement Coordinator.

## Section A: Details of Incident

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Injury | Vocational placement related illness | Non-vocational placement-related illness |
| Property damage | Dangerous event | Electrical incident |
| Environmental incident | Near miss | Other |

Name of person completing report:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name |  | Phone number |  |
| Date incident occurred |  | Time incident occurred |  |
| Signature |  | | |

Incident occurred while:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Location | | Details |
|  | On Vocational Placement |  |
|  | Travelling to or from Vocational Placement or on a meal break |  |
|  | Others |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date reported |  | Reported to |  |

*(Continuation of Section A: Details of Incident)*

Site of Incident:

|  |
| --- |
|  |

Exact location details: (external area / building & room etc.)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

What happened? (What occurred at the time of the incident? Briefly, describe how it happened.)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

*(Continuation of Section A: Details of Incident)*

Were any government agencies called to the incident? E.g. Police, Fire Services, etc.

|  |
| --- |
| NO  YES  If yes, provide details: |

List any witnesses: (names, telephone contact details, ID No if applicable)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Witness name** | **Witness contact number** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## Section B: Details of Injured Person and Injury

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Family name** |  | **Given name/s** |  |
| **Middle name** |  | **Gender** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  | **Phone number** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of injured person’s supervisor** |  |

Nature of injury:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Allergy or sensitivity | Exposure effects heat/cold | Occupational overuse injury |
| Amputation | Fainting | Poisoning/toxic effects |
| Asphyxiation | Foreign body | Post-traumatic shock |
| Bruising | Fracture/dislocation | Psychological disorder/stress effects |
| Burn/scalds | Hearing loss | Puncture |
| Communicable disease | Hernia | Respiratory |
| Concussion or another neuro injury | Internal injuries | Skin condition, e.g. dermatitis/ eczema |
| Contusion/crush | Laceration/deep cut | Superficial wound or abrasion |
| Damage to artificial aids | Multiple injuries | Sprain/strain |
| Electric shock or effects | Nausea/vomiting | Vision impairment |

*(Continuation of Section B: Details of Injured Person and Injury)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Part of body affected** |  | |
| Head | Neck | Ear |
| Forearm | Chest | Upper arm |
| Buttock | Shin/Calf | Internal |
| Face | Shoulder | Hand |
| Wrist | Back | Stomach/trunk |
| Thigh | Ankle | Knee |
| Foot/toe | Eye | Elbow |
| Fingers/thumb | Groin/hip |  |
| **Others (provide details)** |  | |

Further description of injury/illness (if required):

|  |
| --- |
|  |

Details of treatment required:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| None | Self-first aid\*\* | Medical centre/seen by medical doctor hospital |
| **\*\*Describe first aid treatment given** |  | |

*(Continuation of Section B: Details of Injured Person and Injury)*

Agency of injury (what?)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Animal/Insect | Mobile plant/equipment | Radiation |
| Biological agent (e.g. pathogens) | Needle/sharp | Repetitive work |
| Chemical | Noise | Situation – violence, assault |
| Electrical | Non-power tool | Surface (slippery/rough) |
| Explosion/implosion | Objects | Thermal (heat/cold) |
| Lifting/ Carrying | Power tools | Vehicle/transport |
| Machinery/fixed plant | Psychological/social | Workstation design |
| **Other (please specify)** |  | |

Action/ mechanism which caused the injury (how?)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Exposure to biological material | Hit by/trapped in moving object | Needlestick: non-contaminated |
| Exposure to chemicals | Hitting object | Needlestick: potentially contaminated |
| Exposure to electricity | Insect/animal bite | Noise |
| Exposure to heat/cold | Mental stress factors | Pressure |
| Exposure to radiation | Muscle stress- loads | Slip/trip (requires further investigation) |
| Fall from height | **Other (please specify)** |  |

## Section C: Incident Investigation

|  |
| --- |
| **OFFICE USE ONLY**  **This section is to be completed by the [Insert your RTO’s name here] WHS officer for any incident involving personal injury and for a serious incident or near misses where required.** |

Identify any factors contributing to the incident.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Number in order from most direct cause (1) to other underlying causes (2, 3, … etc.)** | |
| Design issues |  |
| Inadequate supervision |  |
| Environment (e.g. floor/ground surface) |  |
| Inadequate/lack of training |  |
| Failure to follow work procedures |  |
| Lack of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment |  |
| Improper use/storage of materials |  |
| Lack of experience |  |
| Inadequate equipment functioning |  |
| Personal factors-stress, fatigue |  |
| Inadequate equipment maintenance |  |
| Poor housekeeping |  |
| Inadequate safety procedures |  |
| Poor/lack of suitable equipment |  |
| Inadequate space |  |
| Unforeseeable event |  |
| Other environmental conditions (e.g. weather, lighting, ventilation, temperature) |  |

*(Continuation of Section C: Incident Investigation)*

**Preventative/Corrective Actions:**

Describe the follow-up actions planned or taken to prevent a similar incident.

Attach extra pages, if required, for investigation and actions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action/s (Short Term and Longer-Term)** | **Who** | **Completion date** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

## Section D: Acknowledgements

|  |
| --- |
| **Office Use Only**  **(This signature confirms that notification of the above incident has been received)** |

**Vocational Placement Coordinator**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** |  | | |
| **Comments** |  | | |
| **Date** |  | **Telephone** |  |
| **Signature** |  | | |

**WHS Officer**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** |  | | |
| **Comments** |  | | |
| **Date** |  | **Telephone** |  |
| **Signature** |  | | |

End of Vocational Placement Information Pack