

## Opal Cutting and Polishing

**AQF VET qualification:** Certificate II in Opal Cutting and Polishing (CUV20311)

**Training Package:** Visual Arts, Crafts and Design (CUV11) version 1

BOS course name	Pattern of study	BOS course number	Schools Online (Administration) entry advice
Opal Cutting and Polishing (120 hours)	2 units x 1 year	58140	Enter this course number for either Preliminary (Year 11) or HSC (Year 12)
Opal Cutting and Polishing (240 hours)	2 units x 2 years	58141	Enter this course number for both Preliminary (Year 11) and HSC (Year 12)

**Eligibility:** Nil

**Exclusions:** Nil

### HSC course requirements

#### Opal Cutting and Polishing (120 indicative hours)

- the possible qualification outcome is a Statement of Attainment towards Certificate II in Opal Cutting and Polishing (CUV20311)
- accredited for a total of 2 units at the Preliminary and/or HSC level
- attempt units of competency to a minimum of 120 HSC indicative hours
- complete a minimum of 35 hours of mandatory work placement (permissible to be undertaken concurrently with the course delivery in a simulated work environment).

#### Opal Cutting and Polishing (240 indicative hours)

- the possible qualification outcome is a Certificate II in Opal Cutting and Polishing (CUV20311)
- accredited for a total of 4 units at the Preliminary and/or HSC level
- attempt all core units of competency and elective units of competency to a minimum of 100 HSC indicative hours and to meet qualification packaging rules
- complete a minimum of 70 hours of mandatory work placement (permissible for up to 50% of this to be undertaken concurrently with the course delivery in a simulated work environment).

The requirements for the completion of an HSC VET course are different to the requirements for AQF VET qualification completion. Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) need to ensure that delivery of courses meets HSC course requirements and complies with Training Package rules.

For a course to count towards the HSC program of study, students must satisfy the course completion criteria as required by the Board of Studies. (Refer to the [Assessment Certification Examination \(ACE\) website](#).)

There must be sufficient evidence that the student has:

- followed the course developed by the Board
- applied themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course
- achieved some or all of the course outcomes
- (where applicable) undertaken the mandatory work placement.

### **Unit credit for the Higher School Certificate**

Opal Cutting and Polishing HSC VET courses count as Board Endorsed unit credit for the HSC but do not contribute towards an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

To facilitate flexibility of VET in the HSC, courses may be delivered as Preliminary, as HSC or as a combination of Preliminary and HSC units.

The HSC credit units will be allocated to students' Preliminary and/or HSC patterns of study as required.

The pattern of study (BOS course number) entered on *Schools Online (Administration)* should reflect the delivery of the HSC VET course over successive years. For example, delivery of a 240 HSC indicative hour course over two years should be entered as 2 units x 2 years. Students will be credentialled for the HSC credit units entered each calendar year, provided they have satisfactorily completed the course requirements for that calendar year as determined by the school, college or RTO.

## Course content

### CORE

Unit code and title	Status for AQF VET qualification	HSC indicative hours of credit
<a href="#">BSBOHS201A</a> Participate in OHS processes	core	15
<a href="#">CUECOR02C</a> Work with others	core	15
<a href="#">CUVOPA201A</a> Identify and assess opal	core	20
<a href="#">CUVOPA202A</a> Handle and store rough and cut opal	core	20
<a href="#">CUVOPA203A</a> Complete pre-cutting processes for solid opals	core	30
<a href="#">CUVOPA204A</a> Cut and polish solid opals	core	40

**Total HSC indicative hours for core units of competency: 140**

### ELECTIVE

Unit code and title	Status for AQF VET qualification	HSC indicative hours of credit
<b>Financial administration</b>		
<a href="#">BSBFIA301A</a> Maintain financial records	elective – listed	30
<b>Opal cutting and polishing</b>		
<a href="#">CUVOPA205A</a> Complete pre-cutting processes for opal doublets and triplets	elective – listed	25
<a href="#">CUVOPA206A</a> Cut and polish opal doublets and triplets	elective – listed	40
<a href="#">CUVOPA405A</a> Obtain opal	elective – listed	15
<a href="#">CUVOPA408A</a> Undertake routine operational maintenance of machinery	elective – listed	15
<b>Sales</b>		
<a href="#">SIRXSL001A</a> Sell products and services	elective – listed	15
<b>Other</b>		
<a href="#">SIRWSL001A</a> Sell products and services to business customers	elective – other	15

## **AQF VET qualification**

Qualification packaging rules are contained in the *Visual Arts, Crafts and Design Training Package (CUV11)* at <http://training.gov.au>.

In summary, to attain Certificate II in Opal Cutting and Polishing (CUV20311) students must achieve 9 units of competency including:

- a) 6 core units of competency
- b) 3 elective units of competency:
  - minimum 1 elective listed.

## Other information

### Criteria for the endorsement of Board Endorsed VET courses (VET BECs)

The criteria for endorsement of VET BECs are outlined in the *Guidelines for Stages 5 and 6 Board Endorsed VET Courses* available on the Board's website at [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc\\_ed/board-endorsed-courses.html](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc_ed/board-endorsed-courses.html).

### HSC VET course delivery

HSC VET courses can only be delivered by an RTO with the relevant qualification and units of competency on their scope of registration. Scope of registration can be checked at <http://training.gov.au>.

RTOs offering training programs for the delivery and assessment of Opal Cutting and Polishing HSC VET courses must meet the requirements of the VET Quality Framework, the [Visual Arts, Crafts and Design Training Package \(CUV11\)](#) and the HSC course.

Information about the delivery of HSC VET courses by RTOs other than school system RTOs or TAFE NSW institutes is contained on the Board's [Assessment Certification Examination \(ACE\) website](#).

Non-government schools outsourcing delivery of HSC VET courses to external providers also need to refer to the *Registered and Accredited Individual Non-government Schools (NSW) Manual* or *Registration Systems and Member Non-government Schools (NSW) Manual* which are available on the Board's website at [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/manuals/#regaccredsystemsmanuals](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/manuals/#regaccredsystemsmanuals).

### HSC work placement requirements

Work placement is a mandatory HSC requirement for all Opal Cutting and Polishing VET courses.

Students undertaking HSC VET courses as part of a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship will meet mandatory work placement hour requirements through the on-the-job training component of the school-based apprenticeship or traineeship.

Students' outside employment (ie not under the auspices of the school) may be recognised towards the requirement for work placement in a VET course (ACE 8051 – [Assessment Certification Examination \(ACE\) website](#)).

Non-completion of work placement is grounds for withholding the HSC course. Schools and colleges are advised to follow the procedure for issuing 'N' determinations as outlined on the Board's [Assessment Certification Examination \(ACE\) website](#).

### Allocation of HSC indicative hours of credit

Units of competency drawn from Training Packages are not defined in terms of duration. The amount of time required by individual students to achieve competency will vary according to their aptitude and experience. Where a training program is designed for delivery by an RTO, the RTO will specify the length of the training program according to the delivery strategies and/or curriculum resources chosen.

However, for the purposes of the HSC, VET courses must be described in terms of their indicative hours. For this reason, indicative hours for unit credit towards the HSC have been assigned to each unit of competency. It is emphasised that the assignment of indicative hours does not imply that all students will fulfil all requirements of a unit of competency within these hours. RTOs may determine that additional or fewer hours are required for the achievement of particular competencies. However, this does not alter the HSC indicative hours allocated, only the delivery hours.

Students may need to spend additional time practising skills in a work environment and completing projects and assignments, in order to fulfil Training Package assessment requirements.

### **Exclusions**

Where there is significant overlap between an HSC VET course and other HSC VET or general education courses, the Board has an exclusion between the courses. Exclusions are applied at a course level rather than at the unit of competency level.

Students can only undertake the Opal Cutting and Polishing (120 indicative hours) course or the Opal Cutting and Polishing (240 indicative hours) course.

Schools should check all course exclusions when determining an appropriate pattern of study for their students.

Course exclusions for Opal Cutting and Polishing are detailed on the first page of this course description.

### **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and credit transfer within VET courses**

Students who have current knowledge, skills or experience relevant to a VET course may be granted credit towards the course requirements.

Arrangements for RPL and credit transfer within VET courses, including processes, application forms and examples of possible scenarios, are detailed on the Board's website at [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc\\_ed/rpl.html](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc_ed/rpl.html).

### **School-based apprentices and trainees**

Information regarding provision for school-based apprentices and trainees within the HSC is available on the Board's website at [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc\\_ed/apprenticeships-traineeships.html](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc_ed/apprenticeships-traineeships.html).

Information on requirements and arrangements for NSW school-based apprenticeships and traineeships is available at [www.training.nsw.gov.au/individuals/apprenticeships\\_traineeships/school\\_based/index.html](http://www.training.nsw.gov.au/individuals/apprenticeships_traineeships/school_based/index.html).

### **Students with special education needs**

Students with special education needs may access a VET course in one of two ways:

- by undertaking the course under regular course arrangements, or
- by undertaking selected units of competency within the course that have been identified through the collaborative curriculum planning process.

For more information, see the [VET Courses and Students with Special Education Needs](#) fact sheet on the Board's website.

### **Students in Years 9 and 10 (Stage 5)**

In certain circumstances students in Years 9 and 10 (Stage 5) may access Stage 6 VET courses. Further information is available on the Board's website at [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc\\_ed/stage-5.html](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/voc_ed/stage-5.html).