

Professional Development Science Operations Officers (SOO)



MSL 40109 Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education)

17 Units of Competency

Symbio Alliance is offering the contextualised Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education) qualification to support the professional development of science technicians in their schools.

The course provides contextualised content and integrated assessment materials for all school laboratory environments. Symbio Alliance acts as the preferred training supplier and Registered Training Organisation (RTO) of choice for this qualification.

Science Operations Officer Maximum price: \$1504*

This nationally accredited qualification is valued at \$10,364**. Access to User Choice funding through Symbio Alliance subsidises your enrolment and reduces the cost to your school for training. This price is based upon units of competency hours set within the training package rules. The discipline options available for SOOs are:

- MSL40109 Cert IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education) – General \$1395*
- MSL40109 Cert IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education) – Biology \$1395*
- MSL40109 Cert IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education) – Chemistry \$1504*

All enrolled students are guaranteed ongoing workplace visits. In addition Symbio Alliance provides tailored learning materials for the school laboratory, and extended support from industry-experienced trainers and assessors.

Should SOOs wish to further their study, completion of any of the above MSL40109 Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education) provides the option to credit transfer and accelerate through the MSL50109 Diploma of Laboratory Technology. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) options are available for both the Certificate IV and Diploma.

Enrolments are open now. Training delivery commences from November 2011.

For more information or to register your interest please email:

[Jenni Baker \(Symbio Alliance\)](mailto:jenni.baker@symbioalliance.com.au)

Queensland Schools Training and Development Project
training@symbioalliance.com.au or 07 3340 5723 or 0423 317 143

** the price is calculated at \$1.55 per nominal hour which is effective 1 January 2012 and is set by the Queensland Government Department of Education and Training. Tuition fee prices can be adjusted by the Queensland Government at any time. Students will be advised of any tuition fee increase"*

*** Based on current User Choice funding and current Tuition fee price.*



MSL30109
(13 units)
Certificate III in Laboratory Skills

----- Minimum requirement for classification OO3 Progression -----

General Option
MSL40109
(17 units)
Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education)

Biology Option
MSL40109
(17 units)
Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education)

Chemistry Option
MSL40109
(17 units)
Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education)

----- Minimum requirement for progression classification OO4 -----

General Option
MSL50109
(21 units)
Diploma of Laboratory Technology (Education)

Biology Option
MSL50109
(21 units)
Diploma of Laboratory Technology (Education)

Chemistry Option
MSL50109
(21 units)
Diploma of Laboratory Technology (Education)

Higher Education Pathway

Frequently Asked Question and Answers



Q. Why has the Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education) been made available to Science Officers and Laboratory Technicians in schools?

A. The purpose of Certificate IV LT(E) is to produce a qualification that will enhance technical skills and knowledge in a school based laboratory environment and set a minimum competency standard for existing and entry level employees. Because it is delivered on a state-wide basis, the Certificate IV LT(E) will assist to develop skills and knowledge that are consistently transferable across workplaces. In addition, the Certificate IV LT(E) provides the minimum qualification that Education Queensland requires to progress from OO3 classification to OO4.

Q. How does the Certificate IV LT(E) work?

A. The Symbio Alliance Certificate IV LT(E) is a nationally accredited qualification that offers training pathways specifically designed for the demands of the secondary science curriculum. Depending on your training requirements and your school's curriculum needs, you can select from 3 training pathways (General, Biology or Chemistry). On completion of any of these pathways, you will receive a Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education) qualification. Each of these pathways are designed to lead into an accelerated Diploma qualification and on to higher education should you choose to continue studying.

Q. Is the Certificate IV LT(E) available to laboratory technicians in non-government schools?

A. Yes.

Q. Why should Science Officers do this training?

A. This training is made available to Science Officers to develop/improve both skills and knowledge in their role of supporting the science curriculum in schools. For:

(i) experienced personnel with no formal qualification and/or entry level employees - the Certificate IV LT(E) package allows you to obtain a nationally recognised qualification that reflects professional competency and supports career progression through classification levels.

(ii) personnel with other qualifications not relevant to the role - the course will provide you with relevant/role-specific professional development needs. Further to this, funding has been made available to support Science Officer professional development costs, which provides enormous savings to the school and individual. Eligibility for this funding can be confirmed during the enrolment process.

Q. Is the Certificate IV LT(E) compulsory?

A. No. However, as there are limited relevant training opportunities for laboratory technicians in education, this course offers a great opportunity for the development of very specific workplace skills training.

Q. If I already have a Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques, does the Certificate IV LT(E) make my earlier qualification obsolete?

A. No. As long as your qualification was through a nationally recognised RTO your Certificate IV is valid.

Q. Do I have to do the Certificate III in Laboratory Skills before I enrol in the Certificate IV Lab qualification?

A. No. Direct entry into the Certificate IV LT(E) is available. If you are currently enrolled in the Certificate III Laboratory Skills it is recommended you complete your training. You can then upgrade to the Certificate IV LT(E) for a reduced price by contacting Symbio Alliance. You will be eligible to credit transfer relevant units of competency from your completed Certificate III into the Certificate IV LT(E).

Q. What if I already have a qualification higher than the Certificate IV level?

A. If you already have a science-based qualification it is not necessary to complete the Certificate IV LT(E) course. If you think your science qualification is not relevant to your SOO role and you would like to undertake the Certificate IV LT(E) course, you will still be eligible for funding.

Q. Do I qualify for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)?

A. You will be asked during the enrolment process if you would like to apply for RPL. The funding requires an RPL applicant to complete 25 % of the qualification via training. Under Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) requirements, an RPL applicant must be able to demonstrate competency through relevant documentation and experience. Onus is on the student to provide sufficient evidence for recognition of prior learning during the RPL process.

Q. Can I do the Certificate IV LT(E) then a Diploma?

A. Yes. The Certificate IV LT(E) provides specific pathways into the diploma. Many of the Certificate IV units can be credit transferred into the diploma, therefore accelerating your professional development.

Q. How does my school enrol me in Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques (Education)?

A. Step 1 - Determine if the school will release professional development monies or if the enrolment will be a self-funded pathway.

Step 2 - Complete the attached enrolment and submit to Symbio Alliance via either fax or email.

Step 3 - Symbio Alliance will then contact you to commence the enrolment process.