



**ACTIVITY CLUSTER
FOR
REGISTRATION
(Abseiling – Artificial)**

VERSION 1.0

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ABSEILING (ARTIFICIAL)

Competency requirement for jobs/functions within the industry

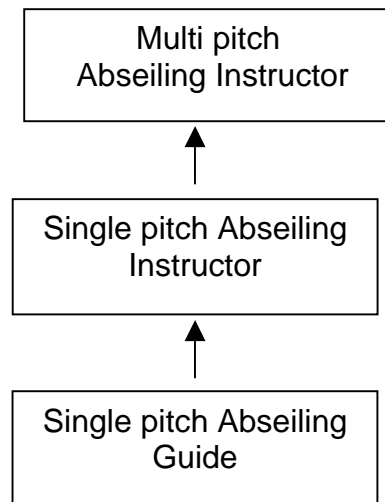
This document contains information on the **minimum competencies** required to achieve Registration within the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme at specific levels within the activity of **abseiling on artificial surfaces**.

The fluid nature of outdoor recreation programs means that the particular competencies required are dependent on the situation. Whilst there are some competencies that will vary little between programs and the environment (eg, Implement minimal environmental practices), there are other competency requirements that will vary a great deal. This is due to the diversity of the programs and the environmental settings where they occur (eg, the ability to interpret weather conditions in the field may be appropriate for those conducting abseiling activities in wilderness Tasmania, but not for conducting abseiling activities on a cliff face in suburban Brisbane). The “appropriate” competencies for a particular situation are those that are suitable for a particular person, condition, occasion, client group or location. “Appropriate” also refers to what a reasonable and prudent professional would do. There are four basic interactive variables that can be formed into a matrix that will determine what are “appropriate” competencies required of an Outdoor Guide or Instructor in any given situation:

1. **Kind of environment:** This includes both physical locations (mountain, river, lake, desert, school grounds) and legal requirements (private property, institution, National Parks, Forestry Service). Among the physical variables are weather, distances from the road head and difficulty of terrain.
2. **Kind of activity:** These include the different outdoor recreation activities
3. **Level of technical expertise:** of staff
4. **Profile of clients:** This is determined by age gender, physical and mental abilities, and psychological, social and cultural backgrounds.

It is the responsibility of a particular employer, organisation, government agency or resource manager to determine the "appropriate" competencies required, based on a risk analysis of the type of program(s), situations, clients and conditions. It should therefore be noted that additional competencies over and above those specified as a minimum within this document may be deemed necessary in some circumstances.

The levels within the Registration Scheme are based on defined job roles or functions within a specific activity. In the case of abseiling, the functions have been defined according to the following structure, which also provides an indication of the sequence in which the required competencies would normally be achieved.



Within the Registration Scheme, the following definitions are used to describe the roles performed:

Role/function	Description
Client	A person whose welfare is the responsibility of a Guide or Instructor.
Guide	A person who possesses relevant outdoor recreation activity specific competencies to lead or guide clients in that activity. There is no intention of imparting skills or knowledge to clients beyond that which is necessary to enable their safe participation in the activity. At the end of a session or program with a guide, the intent is not for the client to have acquired the skills to independently participate in the activity.
Instructor	A person who facilitates skill transfer or development to clients in order that they may act independently within the context in which they were instructed. This requires the instructor to be able to transfer required skills and knowledge, apply a variety of appropriate instructional strategies, and assess participant's skill and knowledge acquisition during and at the end of a program or session.

SINGLE PITCH ABSEILING GUIDE (ARTIFICIAL SURFACES)

Description:

A person designated as a Single Pitch Abseiling Guide (Artificial Surfaces) within the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme has the competencies that enable them to work autonomously within a defined range of skilled operations. These should involve known routines, methods and procedures, where minimal discretion and judgement is required in the selection of equipment, services or contingency measures and within known time constraints.

Single pitch abseiling guides may work within clearly defined contexts conducting single pitch abseiling activities acting according to clearly defined Standard Operating Procedures and relevant documented guidelines. Persons with this level of competence may only conduct single pitch abseiling activities at an artificial abseiling site.

Persons with this level of competence may also work as an assistant with a more experienced leader in potentially non-routine or more complex activities and programs (eg, with “at risk” clients).

Knowledge and skill requirements:

(a) Leadership & Management skills

Unit Code	Unit Title
SRXEMR001A	Respond to emergency situations
SRXFAD001A	Provide first aid
SRXGRO001A	Facilitate a group
SRXGRO002A	Deal with conflict
SRXINU002A	Apply sport and recreation law
SRXOHS001B	Follow defined Occupational Health and Safety policy and procedures
SRXRIK001A	Undertake risk analysis of activities

(b) Outdoor recreation and abseiling specific skills

Unit Code	Unit Title
SROABA002A	Apply single pitch abseiling skills on artificial surfaces
SROABA003A	Establish ropes for abseiling on artificial surfaces
SROABA005A	Guide abseiling on artificial surfaces (single pitch)
SROODR002A	Plan outdoor recreation activities
SROODR005A	Guide outdoor recreation sessions
SROOPS002B	Plan for minimal environmental impact
SROVTR001A	Perform vertical rescues

The units of competency in bold need only be achieved once, in a generic context, and do not need to be demonstrated in the context of single pitch abseiling.

All other units must be assessed in a single pitch abseiling context.

Critical Aspects of a single pitch abseiling guide's competence:

- Knowledge of, and compliance with, relevant Occupational Health and Safety requirements
- Contribution to participative arrangements for the management of Occupational Health and Safety
- Knowledge of, and compliance with, relevant laws and legal requirements
- Group facilitation skills and conflict resolution strategies
- Application of risk analysis principles in an abseiling context
- Response to emergency situations and performance of self rescue and rescue of clients including release of jams, assistance to frozen abseilers, approach from above and below, ascent and descent of rope, raising and lowering of conscious abseiler, raising and lowering of unconscious abseiler with assistance)
- Knowledge of first aid procedures relevant to abseiling
- Demonstrate an awareness of minimal impact procedures and an understanding of their application to an artificial abseiling environment
- Knowledge of equipment storage and maintenance requirements relevant to abseiling equipment
- Ability to plan and guide an abseiling session appropriate to the clients needs, available resources and environmental limitations
- Independent selection of abseil equipment appropriate to the situation and clients
- Underpinning knowledge about abseiling equipment (advantages, disadvantages, limitations)
- Information about sites to abseil (appropriate to skill level)
- Selection of appropriate fixed anchors (eg, beams, eye bolts, chains)
- Rigging of ropes using single and multiple anchors
- Establishment of belay systems at the top of the pitch
- Establishment of belay systems at the bottom of the pitch
- Efficient belaying of clients to accommodate different client abilities and situations
- Maintenance of a client's physical and emotional safety during an abseiling session
- Efficient abseiling in single pitch situations using a self-belay.

(a) Leadership and Management Skills

Unit of competency	Aspects to be addressed
SRXEMR001A Respond to emergency situations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate the emergency 2. Develop a plan of action 3. Control the emergency 4. Debrief the emergency
SRXFAD001A Provide first aid	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the situation 2. Apply basic first aid techniques 3. Communicate details of the incident
SRXGRO001A Facilitate a group	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan the establishment of a group 2. Monitor group formation 3. Develop group commitment and cooperation 4. Facilitate group processes 5. Manage and facilitate group performance
SRXGRO002A Deal with conflict	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify conflict situations 2. Implement conflict resolution strategies 3. Use effective interpersonal skills
SRXINU002A Apply sport and recreation law	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify laws applicable to the sport and recreation industry 2. Ensure compliance with legal requirements
SRXOHS001B Follow defined Occupational Health and Safety policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow workplace procedures for hazard identification and risk control

and procedures	2. Contribute to participative arrangements for the management of Occupational Health and Safety
SRXRIK001A Undertake risk analysis of activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish the context of the risk analysis 2. Identify risks associated with an activity 3. Conduct risk analysis of an activity 4. Undertake risk assessment of an activity 5. Treat risks associated with an activity 6. Monitor and review the risk management plan for an activity

(b) Outdoor recreation and single-pitch abseiling specific skills

Unit of competency	Aspects to be addressed
SROABA002A Apply single pitch abseiling skills on artificial surfaces	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select, fit and use abseiling equipment 2. Demonstrate correct abseiling technique 3. Avoid hazards when abseiling 4. Apply safety procedures 5. Establish belaying position 6. Demonstrate suitable belaying technique
SROABA003A Establish ropes for abseiling on artificial surfaces	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose solid and secure anchors 2. Select and set up a belay system 3. Rig rope pitches for safety and ease of use
SROABA005A Guide abseiling on artificial surfaces (single pitch)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan an abseiling activity for clients 2. Select appropriate equipment for the group 3. Establish the abseil 4. Brief the clients 5. Maintain the welfare of the group 6. Supervise an abseiling activity safely 7. Conduct activity in a professional manner 8. Complete post-trip responsibilities
SROODR002A Plan outdoor recreation activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make logistical arrangements 2. Select and use suitable outdoor equipment 3. Identify, plan and monitor food requirements 4. Identify and plan for water needs and usage 5. Identify and plan clothing requirements 6. Participate in an outdoor activity 7. Deal with non-routine situations
SROODR005A Guide outdoor recreation sessions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collect information to plan a session 2. Produce a session plan 3. Resource a session 4. Maintain clients' physical welfare 5. Maintain a positive social environment 6. Establish effective communication 7. Ensure client safety 8. Prepare clients to end the session 9. Evaluate the session
SROOPS002B Plan for minimal environmental impact	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the interrelationships occurring within a natural environment 2. Identify sources of environmental impact 3. Identify sources of social impact 4. Plan for minimal impact 5. Implement methods to minimise impact 6. Monitor and review minimal impact practices

SROVTR001A	Perform	vertical	rescues	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ascend and descend a pitch using single rope techniques2. Negotiate simple obstacles to self-rescue3. Establish and use mechanical advantage systems4. Perform vertical rescues
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SINGLE PITCH ABSEILING INSTRUCTOR (ARTIFICIAL SURFACES)

Description:

A person designated as a Single Pitch Abseiling Instructor (Artificial Surfaces) within the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme has the competencies that enable them to work autonomously within a defined range of skilled operations. These should involve known routines, methods and procedures, where some discretion and judgement is required in the selection of equipment, services or contingency measures and within known time constraints.

Single pitch abseiling instructors may work within clearly defined contexts instructing single pitch abseiling skills and techniques according to clearly defined Standard Operating Procedures and relevant documented guidelines. Persons with this level of competence may only instruct single pitch abseiling activities at an artificial abseiling site.

Persons with this level of competence may also work as an assistant with a more experienced leader in potentially non-routine or more complex activities and programs (eg, in multi-pitch situations).

Knowledge and skill requirements:

A single pitch abseiling instructor requires single pitch abseiling guide competencies **PLUS:**

(a) Leadership & Management skills

Unit Code	Unit Title
BSZ404A	Train small groups

(b) Outdoor recreation and abseiling specific skills

Unit Code	Unit Title
SROABA006A	Instruct abseiling on artificial surfaces (single pitch)

The units of competency in bold need only be achieved once, in a generic context, and do not need to be demonstrated in the context of single pitch abseiling.

All other units must be assessed in a single pitch abseiling context.

Critical Aspects of a single pitch abseiling instructor's competence:

- Contribution to, and compliance with, relevant legislation and Occupational Health and Safety requirements
- Group facilitation skills and conflict resolution strategies
- Knowledge of, and compliance with, laws and legal requirements
- Application of risk analysis principles in an abseiling context
- Response to emergency situations and performance of self rescue and rescue of clients including release of jams, assistance to frozen abseiler, approach from above and below, ascent and descent of rope, raising and lowering of conscious abseiler, raising and lowering of unconscious abseiler with assistance)
- Knowledge of first aid procedures relevant to abseiling
- Demonstrate an awareness of minimal impact procedures and an understanding of their application to an artificial abseiling environment
- Knowledge of equipment storage and maintenance requirements relevant to abseiling equipment

- Ability to plan and instruct an abseiling session appropriate to the clients needs, available resources and environmental limitations

Ability to demonstrate and teach the following:

- Independent selection of abseil equipment appropriate to the situation and clients
- Underpinning knowledge about abseiling equipment (advantages, disadvantages, limitations)
- Information about sites to abseil (appropriate to skill level)
- Selection of fixed anchors (eg, beams, eye bolts, chains)
- Rigging of ropes using single and multiple anchors
- Establishment of belay systems at the top of the pitch
- Establishment of belay systems at the bottom of the pitch
- Efficient belaying of clients to accommodate different client abilities and situations
- Maintenance of a client's physical and emotional safety during an abseiling session
- Efficient abseiling in single pitch situations using a self belay
- Knowledge of, and ability to perform, vertical rescue techniques appropriate to single pitch abseiling.

(a) Leadership and Management Skills

Unit of competency	Aspects to be addressed
BSZ404A Train Small Groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare for training 2. Deliver training 3. Provide opportunities for practice 4. Review training

(b) Outdoor recreation and single-pitch abseiling specific skills

Unit of competency	Aspects to be addressed
SROABA006A Instruct abseiling on artificial surfaces (single pitch)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan an instructional session for teaching abseiling skills on artificial surfaces 2. Select appropriate resources required to teach abseiling skills on artificial surfaces 3. Introduce an instructional abseiling session on artificial surfaces 4. Conduct an instructional abseiling session on artificial surfaces 5. Apply appropriate teaching techniques for an abseiling session on artificial surfaces 6. Teach required knowledge that applies to an abseiling activity 7. Teach safety and rescue procedures appropriate to an abseiling activity 8. Teach abseiling skills (for artificial surfaces) 9. Communicate further abseiling knowledge (for artificial surfaces) 10. Conclude and evaluate the abseiling instructional session

MULTI PITCH ABSEILING INSTRUCTOR (ARTIFICIAL SURFACE)

Description:

A person designated as a Multi Pitch Abseiling Instructor (Artificial Surfaces) within the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme has the competencies to instruct clients in order that they may acquire abseiling skills or abseil guiding skills to enable independent operation.

A person with this level of competence may instruct clients to achieve the following outcomes:

- Abseiling participant (single pitch)
- Abseiling participant (multi pitch)
- Single pitch abseiling guide.

Knowledge and skill requirements:

A multi pitch abseiling instructor requires single pitch abseiling instructor competencies **PLUS:**

(a) Leadership & Management skills

Unit Code	Unit Title
SRXEMR002A	Coordinate emergency response
SRXGRO003A	Provide leadership to groups
SRXOHS002B	Implement and monitor the organisation's Occupational Health and Safety policies, procedures and programs

(b) Outdoor recreation and abseiling specific skills

Unit Code	Unit Title
SROABA004A	Establish ropes for multi pitch abseiling on artificial surfaces
SROABA007A	Instruct abseiling on artificial surfaces (multi pitch)
SROODR003A	Plan outdoor recreation activities (advanced)
SROODR006A	Manage risk in an outdoor activity
SROVTR002A	Perform complex vertical rescues

The units of competency in bold need only be achieved once, in a generic context, and do not need to be demonstrated in the context of multi pitch abseiling.

All other units must be assessed in a multi pitch abseiling context

Critical Aspects of a multi pitch abseiling instructor's competence include critical aspects of single pitch abseiling instructor PLUS:

- Monitoring of the organisation's Occupational Health and Safety policies, procedures and programs and suggesting modifications, where relevant
- Application of risk analysis principles in a multi-pitch abseiling context
- Knowledge of the requirements of an instructor in potentially complex and challenging abseiling situations
- Demonstrate a knowledge of, and ability to apply, effective risk management strategies
- Coordination of emergency response and performance of self rescue in complex situations, complex rescue of clients with assistance from others with minimal skills, raising and lowering of unconscious abseiler with minimal assistance, assisting in stretcher rescue)
- Ability to plan and instruct single and multi pitch abseiling sessions appropriate to clients needs, available resources and environmental limitations

Ability to demonstrate and teach the following:

- Application of an extensive knowledge of equipment and discrimination between features of different equipment
- Selection of fixed anchors in single and multi-pitch situations
- Establishment of belay systems in single and multi-pitch situations
- Rigging of ropes using single and multiple anchors in single and multi-pitch situations
- Maintenance of a client's physical and emotional safety during abseiling sessions in a diversity of situations (eg, extended periods of time, rescue situations)
- Efficient abseiling in single and multi pitch, routine and non-routine situations

(a) Leadership and Management skills

Unit of competency	Aspects to be addressed
SRXEMR002A Coordinate emergency response	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate response to emergency reports or signals 2. Anticipate the behaviour and characteristics of typical emergencies 3. Coordinate and apply operating instructions 4. Coordinate the rescue procedure 5. Coordinate, initiate and control evacuation 6. Coordinate operational procedures
SRXGRO003A Provide Leadership to Groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate appropriate standards of performance 2. Influence individuals and groups 3. Make decisions 4. Facilitate group decision making 5. Demonstrate appropriate leadership styles
SRXOHS002B Implement and monitor the organisation's Occupational Health and Safety policies, procedures and programs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide information to the work group about Occupational Health and Safety and the organisation's Occupational Health and Safety policies, procedures and programs 2. Implement and monitor participative arrangements for the management of Occupational Health and Safety 3. Implement and monitor the organisation's procedures for identifying hazards and assessing risks 4. Implement and monitor the organisation's procedures for controlling risks 5. Implement the organisation's procedures for dealing with hazardous events 6. Implement and monitor the organisation's procedures for providing Occupational Health and Safety training 7. Implement and monitor the organisation's procedures for maintaining Occupational Health and Safety records

(b) Outdoor recreation and abseiling specific skills

Unit of competency	Aspects to be addressed
SROABA004A Establish ropes for multi pitch abseiling on artificial surfaces	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose solid and secure anchors 2. Select and set up a belay system 3. Rig rope pitches for safety and ease of use
SROABA007A Instruct abseiling on artificial surfaces (multi pitch)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan an instructional session for teaching abseiling skills on artificial surfaces 2. Select appropriate resources required to teach abseiling skills on artificial surfaces

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Introduce an instructional abseiling session on artificial surfaces 4. Conduct an instructional abseiling session on artificial surfaces 5. Apply appropriate teaching techniques for an abseiling session on artificial surfaces 6. Teach required knowledge that applies to an abseiling activity 7. Teach safety and rescue procedures appropriate to an abseiling activity 8. Teach abseiling skills (for artificial surfaces) 9. Communicate further abseiling knowledge (for artificial surfaces) 10. Conclude and evaluate the abseiling instructional session
SROODR003A	Plan outdoor recreation activities (advanced)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make logistical arrangements 2. Select and use suitable outdoor equipment 3. Identify, plan and monitor food requirements 4. Identify and plan for water needs and usage 5. Identify and plan clothing requirements 6. Participate in an outdoor activity 7. Deal with non-routine situations
SROODR006A	Manage risk in an outdoor activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate knowledge of the role of risk theory in the context of outdoor activities 2. Examine the adventure experience and its link to risk in outdoor activities 3. Apply knowledge of accidents 4. Identify and record potential risks and hazards in an activity, and management strategies to lessen their impact 5. Apply risk management during an outdoor activity 6. Evaluate risk management
SROVTR002A	Perform complex vertical rescues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine appropriate rescue technique 2. Establish rescue system 3. Perform vertical rescues