

Nationally accredited course

11362NAT Course in Observing and Documenting the Mental State Examination

This course has been developed for practitioners working in mental health, alcohol and other drugs services or those currently studying toward a qualification in these areas and where observing and documenting the mental state examination is within their current or anticipated scope of practice.

This course offers practical ways to observe and document clinically relevant features of the Mental State Examination (MSE) according to the industry standard for appropriate clinical documentation. To ensure learners are able to demonstrate competency, the course focusses on identifying the key features to be observed for: appearance and behaviour, speech, mood and affect, perception, thought content, thought form/flow, insight, judgement, and cognition. Contextual factors that may impact a person's mental state are also explored.

Filmed scenarios demonstrate a broad range of mental health presentations and behavioural phenomena, allowing learners to practice skills and apply new knowledge in observing and documenting the mental state examination.

This course consists of a workshop (7 hours face-to-face learning or two 4-hour online workshops), self-study (4 hours) and online assessment (3-4 hours.) The self-study options provided are selected to support preparation for the assessment, or alternatively to support the application of the newly acquired knowledge and skills in the workplace.

This is a nationally recognised training course, accredited by the National Vocational Education and Training (VET) regulator, Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA).



Required learning outcomes:

To meet the requirements of [11362NAT Course in Observing and Documenting the Mental State Examination](#), learners must fulfil the requirements as stated in the unit of competency NAT11362001 Observe and document the mental state examination. The unit describes the knowledge and performance standards required for observing and documenting the MSE.

Learners will be trained to:

- observe clinically relevant features of each of the core components of the MSE
- consider the influence of contextual factors (environmental, developmental, personal, cultural) on the person's presentation
- record clinically relevant observations and provide a rationale for clinical judgements made
- apply the minimum standard for mental state examination documentation when making records.

The training is targeted to:

Early career clinicians: This course will assist you to develop required skills and practice applying them to clinical scenarios.

Experienced clinicians: This course will help strengthen and solidify your MSE observation and documentation skills with current best practice. Please also refer to your local mandatory/requisite training requirements.

Cost: \$250

Queensland Health/QAS - Nil (internally funded)

Mode: Face-to-face

Duration: 1 day = 7 hours active learning for CPD

An additional 7 hours activity after the workshop is also described (including the course assessment of approx. 3-4 hours) making the total CPD accessible for this course = 14 hours.

Required: Provision of Unique Student Identifier (USI), visit www.usi.gov.au

Please also read the [Essential course information](#) guide and complete the pre-training review online.

Aligned to:

- *National Standards for Mental Health Services 2010*
- *Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2025.*

Assessable course: Post training, learners complete an online assessment. A Statement of Attainment (SoA) is issued when full attendance at the workshop and successful completion of the assessment is achieved. 14 hours CPD applies only when SoA has been issued.

More options: Also available via online classroom; view [11362NAT online classroom](#) on our website.

Supported by QC48 Mental State Examination eLearning (not accredited training).