

SSAPP10 Grader

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Apparel
Functional area	Product Design and Development
Job role	SSAPP10 Grader
Job role description	Develops size grading rules and graded pattern sets for apparel products. The Grader applies grading techniques to base garment patterns to create accurate size ranges suitable for production. The role works closely with patternmakers, digital patternmakers, technical designers and product developers to ensure garments maintain correct proportions, fit and construction across all sizes.
Performance expectations	• Develop grading rules for garment size ranges • Apply grading techniques to base garment patterns • Ensure proportional consistency across all garment sizes • Work with patternmakers and technical designers during development • Validate graded patterns through fit evaluation and sampling • Prepare graded patterns for production and marker making • Maintain grading documentation and digital pattern files • Support consistent garment fit across product ranges
Specialisation	Garment size grading using manual or digital pattern grading systems.
Application in other TCF sectors	• Footwear size grading systems • Technical apparel and protective clothing development • Uniform and workwear garment sizing • Outdoor apparel and performance garment sizing • Sewn product industries including bags and accessories

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Develop grading specifications for apparel size ranges • Apply grading rules to base garment patterns • Adjust graded patterns following fit evaluations • Prepare graded pattern sets for production • Maintain digital grading systems and pattern files • Collaborate with patternmakers and technical designers • Support marker making and production preparation • Document grading standards for product ranges
Critical work functions	• Ensuring garments maintain correct proportions across sizes • Supporting consistent fit across product ranges • Preventing grading errors that affect garment construction

	- Supporting efficient garment manufacturing processes - Maintaining accurate grading documentation - Ensuring compatibility with production and cutting systems
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3. Technical skills

Pattern grading techniques	Apply manual and digital garment grading methods.
CAD grading systems	Use digital pattern grading software.
Garment construction knowledge	Understand garment assembly and fit.
Measurement systems	Interpret size charts and body measurement standards.
Proportion analysis	Maintain correct garment proportions across sizes.
Pattern adjustment	Modify graded patterns following fit evaluations.
Marker preparation awareness	Understand fabric utilisation and marker making.
Digital file management	Maintain organised grading files and version control.

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensure precision in grading measurements.
Problem solving	Resolve grading issues affecting garment fit.
Communication	Explain grading adjustments to technical teams.
Collaboration	Work with patternmakers and product developers.
Organisation	Maintain structured grading documentation.
Time management	Meet product development and production deadlines.
Attention to detail	Ensure precision in grading measurements.
Problem solving	Resolve grading issues affecting garment fit.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	- Automated digital grading systems - Integration with PLM and digital product development platforms 3D garment fit analysis across size ranges - Digital body measurement datasets - Advanced data-driven sizing systems
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST31022 Certificate III in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles
Advanced development	MST50122 Diploma of Apparel, Fashion and Textiles

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Patternmaking Assistant → Grader → Senior Grader → Technical Design Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	3
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	3
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Grader - Apparel



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