

# SSAPP27 Washing Machine, Laundry and Dry Cleaning Operator

## 1. Job role

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| TCF sub-sector                   | Apparel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Functional area                  | Finishing and Dispatch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Job role                         | SSAPP27 Washing Machine, Laundry and Dry Cleaning Operator                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Job role description             | Operates industrial washing, laundry and dry-cleaning equipment used in garment production and textile finishing environments. The role supports garment preparation, washing, dyeing, finishing and cleaning processes to achieve required fabric performance, appearance and quality standards. Operators work with washing machines, dryers, finishing equipment and chemical treatment systems to process garments, fabrics and textile products in accordance with production specifications, safety procedures and environmental guidelines.                                        |
| Performance expectations         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operate industrial washing and dry-cleaning equipment safely and efficiently</li> <li>• Follow garment washing and finishing specifications</li> <li>• Ensure correct use of detergents, chemicals and cleaning agents</li> <li>• Maintain consistent garment quality and finishing standards</li> <li>• Monitor machine performance and report faults</li> <li>• Maintain clean and organised work areas</li> <li>• Meet production targets and processing schedules</li> <li>• Follow workplace safety and environmental procedures</li> </ul> |
| Specialisation                   | Garment washing and finishing processes, textile laundering operations, industrial dry-cleaning systems and chemical treatment processes used in garment production environments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Application in other TCF sectors | The skills described in this profile are transferable across multiple sectors of the textile, clothing and footwear (TCF) industry and may also be applied in other manufacturing and product-based industries where similar capabilities are required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## 2. Key tasks and critical work functions

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| Key tasks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Load and operate industrial washing machines and dryers</li> <li>• Prepare garments and textiles for washing or cleaning</li> <li>• Measure and apply detergents, solvents and finishing chemicals</li> <li>• Monitor washing cycles and machine performance</li> <li>• Unload and inspect garments after washing or cleaning</li> <li>• Perform basic machine cleaning and maintenance tasks</li> <li>• Report equipment faults or processing issues</li> </ul> |
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|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain production records and process documentation</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Critical work functions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining consistent garment washing and finishing quality</li> <li>• Ensuring safe handling of chemicals and equipment</li> <li>• Supporting garment production schedules</li> <li>• Preventing fabric damage or processing errors</li> <li>• Maintaining efficient textile processing workflows</li> <li>• Supporting quality control of finished garments</li> </ul> |

### 3. Technical skills

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|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Industrial washing equipment operation | Operate garment washing machines and dryers.                |
| Dry-cleaning systems                   | Operate solvent-based cleaning equipment.                   |
| Chemical handling                      | Measure and apply detergents and cleaning chemicals safely. |
| Garment finishing processes            | Support washing, softening and finishing treatments.        |
| Machine monitoring                     | Monitor washing cycles, temperatures and machine settings.  |
| Textile care knowledge                 | Understand fabric types and washing requirements.           |
| Basic equipment maintenance            | Clean and maintain washing and finishing equipment.         |
| Workplace safety                       | Apply WHS procedures when handling chemicals and machinery. |

### 4. Generic Skills

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| Attention to detail | Ensure correct washing procedures and garment quality.         |
| Time management     | Maintain efficient processing cycles and production schedules. |
| Communication       | Report machine faults and production issues.                   |
| Teamwork            | Work collaboratively with garment production teams.            |
| Reliability         | Follow operating procedures and safety requirements.           |
| Organisation        | Maintain clean and organised work areas.                       |

### 5. Emerging skills

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Emerging skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy-efficient washing technologies</li> <li>• Environmentally sustainable textile cleaning processes</li> <li>• Digital control systems for industrial washing equipment</li> <li>• Water recycling and waste reduction systems</li> <li>• Sustainable chemical management</li> <li>• Automation in textile finishing processes</li> </ul> |
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### 6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

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| Entry-level preparation | MSTSS00004 Introduction to Laundry or Dry Cleaning Industry Skill Set or equivalent |
| Advanced development    | MST20722 Certificate II in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles                            |

## 7. Job progression

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| Possible job progression | Laundry / Washing Operator → Senior Finishing Operator →<br>Production Supervisor → Production Manager |
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## 8. Classification

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| Australian Qualifications Framework                               | AQF Level 2                                                                   |
| Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)<br>Skill Levels             | Skill Level 4 (Machine Operator)                                              |
| Open Source Classification of<br>Occupations for Australia (OSCA) | Laundry and Dry Cleaning Machine Operator - Textile and<br>Garment Processing |



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