

SSBIO01 Compression Garment Fitting Specialist

Disclaimer

These Occupational Frameworks and Skill Profiles have been developed as workforce planning, occupational mapping and skills reference resources for the Australian textile, clothing and footwear (TCF) industry. They are intended to describe the typical functions, responsibilities, skills and capabilities associated with occupations across the industry.

These documents are not intended to replace or override industrial instruments or employment arrangements, including awards, enterprise agreements, employment contracts, position descriptions, classification structures, licensing or regulatory requirements, or other statutory obligations. Where differences arise, the relevant industrial, legislative or regulatory requirements take precedence. The Skill Profiles should be used as complementary reference documents to support workforce planning, career development, training and skills recognition.

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Biomedical Textiles (Medical and Health Applications)
Functional area	Clinical and Patient Services
Job role	SSBIO01 Compression Garment Fitting Specialist
Job role description	Provides specialised fitting, adjustment and application of compression garments for medical and therapeutic use, ensuring correct pressure, comfort and clinical effectiveness for patients. In the Australian biomedical textiles sector—characterised by highly regulated, patient-focused products—the Compression Garment Fitting Specialist plays a critical role at the interface between product design, manufacturing and clinical application. The role ensures garments are correctly fitted to individual patient anatomy and clinical requirements, supporting treatment outcomes for conditions such as lymphoedema, burns, vascular disorders and post-surgical recovery. The specialist works closely with clinicians, therapists, manufacturers and patients to ensure garments meet prescribed specifications, are applied correctly and perform as intended in real-world use.
Performance expectations	• Accurately measuring and fitting compression garments to patients • Ensuring garments meet prescribed compression levels and clinical requirements • Maintaining patient comfort, mobility and safety • Minimising fitting errors, rework and product waste • Providing clear guidance to patients on garment use and care • Maintaining accurate fitting records and documentation • Supporting clinical outcomes and patient satisfaction • Following WHS, infection control and regulatory procedures
Specialisation	Lymphoedema garments, burn compression garments, post-surgical garments, custom-fit compression systems, clinical measurement and fitting

Application in other TCF sectors	• Medical devices and healthcare services • Orthotics and prosthetics • Rehabilitation and physiotherapy services • Sports performance and recovery garments • Personalised apparel and wearable technology
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2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Measuring patients for compression garments • Fitting standard and custom garments • Adjusting garments for comfort and effectiveness • Interpreting clinical prescriptions and specifications • Educating patients on garment use and care • Recording measurements and fitting data • Liaising with clinicians and manufacturers • Monitoring fit and recommending adjustments
Critical work functions	• Ensuring integrity and durability of fabricated joins and seams • Maintaining compliance with product specifications and performance requirements • Preventing seam failures, delamination and fabrication defects • Supporting efficient workflow across fabrication and assembly operations • Maintaining safe operation of specialised fabrication equipment • Supporting consistency and repeatability of production outcomes • Ensuring traceability and quality documentation accuracy • Contributing to productivity, operational reliability and customer satisfaction

3. Technical skills

Patient measurement	Taking precise anatomical measurements
Garment fitting	Applying and adjusting compression garments
Compression knowledge	Understanding pressure levels and therapeutic requirements
Clinical interpretation	Reading and applying prescriptions
Product knowledge	Understanding garment materials and construction
Adjustment techniques	Modifying fit for comfort and function
Documentation	Recording measurements and fitting outcomes
Hygiene and infection control	Applying healthcare safety standards

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring precise measurements and fit
Communication	Explaining procedures to patients and clinicians
Empathy	Supporting patient comfort and confidence

Problem solving	Addressing fit and comfort issues
Manual dexterity	Handling garments and fittings accurately
Time management	Managing appointments and workflow
Professionalism	Maintaining patient confidentiality and care standards

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Digital body scanning and measurement technologies • Custom garment design integration with CAD systems • Advanced smart textiles and wearable sensors • Data-driven patient monitoring and outcomes tracking • Telehealth and remote fitting support • Sustainable and recyclable medical textile materials
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	HLT43021 Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance or equivalent
Advanced development	Bachelor's degree in Orthotics/Prosthetics, Clinical Fitting, or specialised biomedical textile training

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Assistant / Trainee → Compression Garment Fitting Specialist → Senior Specialist → Clinical Consultant → Product Development or Technical Specialist
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 3-5
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 1
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	262931 - Orthotist / Prosthetist. Compression garment fitting is an emerging role, and the closest current OSCA occupation 262931.



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