

11403NAT

Diploma of Stage and Screen Performance (DSSP)

Course regulations

Award	Diploma of Stage and Screen Performance
Study Level	Diploma
Australian Qualifications Framework Level	Level 5
Course Duration	Full time: 1 year
CRICOS Code	N/A

Responsibility for implementation	Director, Learning and Innovation
Approval authority	Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)
Approval dates	22/Feb/2026-21/Feb/2031
Date these course regulations updated	July 2026
Date effective	January 2027
Contact position	Head of Vocational Education
Content Manager Number	NC26/7

1. Scope

These course regulations apply to the following qualification:

- 11403NAT Diploma of Stage and Screen Performance

For students commencing in 2027.

2. Authority to award the qualification

Qualifications are issued by NIDA (RTO: 90349) within 30 calendar days from completing the course requirements. Graduands are notified to the Board of Directors for approval to attend a graduation ceremony subject to payment of all fees and return of equipment associated with the training for the course.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

The course is intended to provide learners with the following vocational outcomes, associated with the entertainment and arts industries:

- Performer for stage, screen and media.
- Deviser for stage, screen and media.

Key duties, specialist skills, and functions applicable to the job roles identified include ability to:

- Interpret scripts; build, present and sustain characters.
- Collaborate with others to create live, screen and media performances.
- Originate and develop characters, situations and stories for live, screen, and media performances.

4. Admission requirements

Abbreviated course title	Requirements
11403NAT DSSP	<i>Essential entry requirements:</i> Entrants must: - Be at least 18 years of age during the training - At audition and interview, show a high level of practical ability, potential and motivation, and - Complete the audition and interview requirements (i.e. undertake the audition and interview and participate in any required tasks). - Be an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or New Zealand citizen. This course does not accept international students. <i>Recommended entry requirements:</i> It is recommended entrants have: - completed their HSC or equivalent - capacity for collaboration and effective communication; and - high level language, literacy, and numeracy levels (sufficient to interpret briefs, texts, scripts, and sourcebooks, and prepare written notes and reports) <i>Limitations to entry:</i> Students seeking entry to this course will be subject to an audition and interview process to determine their suitability for

	live and recorded performance practice.
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5. Course requirements

5.1 Course structure – subject groupings and their units of competency

In accordance with the course as accredited by ASQA, and as expressed in the official course document, the qualification comprises 14 units of competency. Completion of all units of competency is mandatory. To graduate, learners will need to have met the requirements of each unit of competency. [These are identified in the course Subject Handbook.]

What follows are the units of competency codes and names, within 5 subject groupings:

Subject group 1: Professional Practice

1. CUAIND412 Provide freelance services
2. CUAPPR512 Develop sustainability of own professional practice

Subject group 2: Acting and Stagecraft

3. CUAMPF612 Manage stagecraft aspects of performances
4. CUAACT411 Use acting techniques in performance
5. NAT11403005 Develop acting techniques for screen

Subject group 3: Physical Fitness

6. CUAWHS511 Maintain a high level of fitness for performance

Subject group 4: Storytelling, Performance, and Design

7. NAT11403001 Apply story and narrative conventions
8. NAT11403006 Apply design elements for stage
9. NAT11403007 Apply design elements for screen
10. NAT11403003 Devise works for stage
11. NAT11403004 Devise works for screen

Subject group 5: Performance Practice – stage and screen

12. CUAPRF513 Prepare for and perform in competitive environments
13. NAT11403008 Use technology in performance
14. NAT11403002 Use performance practices to develop a production

5.2 Industry placements

No industry placements are required to complete the 11403NAT Diploma of Stage and Screen Performance.

5.3 Course duration

In accordance with the course as accredited by ASQA, and as expressed in the official course document, the volume of learning required to complete the course is 1,263 hours, comprising 963 hours of supervised learning and 300 hours of unsupervised learning. NIDA will usually deliver this volume of learning over a period of 32 weeks.

5.4 Attendance

Learners must attend all scheduled classes and activities, except in cases of certified medical conditions, or when leave of absence has been approved by the Deputy Director Learning and Innovation (VET), or their official representative.

5.5 Rules of progression

A learner needs to meet the requirements for each unit of competency to meet the requirements of the course. This includes demonstrating the ability to complete the tasks outlined in the unit of competency descriptor elements, and their related performance criteria, foundation skills, and knowledge skills. [These are identified in the course Subject Handbook.]

NIDA will determine the support needs of individual learners and will provide access to the educational and support services necessary for the individual learner to meet the requirements of the course as specified in the course as accredited by ASQA, and as expressed in the official course document.

Should a learner not meet the requirements of a unit (or units) of competency after repeated attempts, they will not be eligible to be awarded the qualification. Rather a learner will be awarded a formal statement of attainment for the units of competency they have completed.

6. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

NIDA may grant RPL to a prospective learner, in accordance with the requirements of the RPL process as outlined in the RPL policy published on the NIDA website, and in accordance with the requirements of ASQA (Australian Skills Quality Authority).

RPL refers to an assessment process that evaluates the competency of a prospective learner that may have been acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning to determine the extent to which that individual meets the requirements specified in the training package or VET (Vocational Education and Training) accredited courses.

- Formal learning refers to learning that takes place through a structured program of instruction and is linked to the attainment of an AQF (Australian Qualifications Framework) qualification or statement of attainment (for example, a certificate, diploma or university degree).
- Non-formal learning refers to learning that takes place through a structured program of instruction but does not lead to the attainment of an AQF qualification or statement of attainment (for example, in-house professional development programs conducted by a business).
- Informal learning refers to learning that results through experience of work-related, social, family, hobby or leisure activities (for example the acquisition of interpersonal skills developed through several years as a sales representative).

**End of
regulations**