

CUA51020**Diploma of Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services) DSM(SMS)**

Course regulations

Award	Diploma of Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services)
Study Level	Diploma
Australian Qualifications Framework Level	Level 5
Course Duration	Full time: 32 weeks
CRICOS Code	Not available to international students

Responsibility for implementation	Director, Learning and Innovation
Approval authority	Nationally approved training package
Version	Release 3 effective 19/Oct/2022
Date these course regulations updated	November 2025
Date effective	January 2026
Contact position	Deputy Director, Learning and Innovation (VET)
Content Manager Number	NC26/1

1. Scope

These course regulations apply to the following qualification:

- CUA51020 Diploma of Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services)

For students commencing in 2026.

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

Upon completion of this course, graduates will be able to:

- 3.1 Gain skills and knowledge to design and apply make-up, create wigs and style hair and hair pieces.
- 3.2 Learn specialist skills relating to prosthetics and special effects make-up.
- 3.3 Develop the ability to work as part of a team or independently in make-up services.
- 3.4 Develop autonomy in respond to make-up and hair design briefs.
- 3.5 Develop problem-solving skills for a range of collaborative situations.
- 3.6 Develop skills to work collaboratively with other creative professionals and performers.

4. Admission requirements

Abbreviated course title	Requirements
CUA51020 DSM(SMS)	<p>Applicants seeking entry into the course must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Be an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or New Zealand citizen. This course does not accept international students.- Have reached the age of 18 before the commencement of the course. In some circumstances NIDA may select candidates who turn 18 during their course.- Have completed their Higher School Certificate or equivalent – this may be waived in exceptional circumstances. ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) is not required.- Demonstrate a high level of practical ability, potential and motivation at the interview and /or audition.- Complete the interview /audition requirements for the course.

5. Course requirements

5.1 Course structure – subject groupings and their units of competency

In accordance with ASQA requirements, the qualification comprises 15 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.

1. CUAIND412 Provide freelance services
2. CUAIND512 Enhance professional practice using creative arts industry knowledge
3. CUAPPR411 Realise a creative project
4. CUAPPR515 Establish and maintain safe creative practice
5. CUAMUP411 Design, apply and remove make-up
6. CUAMUP412 Maintain make-up and hair continuity
7. CUAMUP413 Style hair for productions
8. CUAMUP414 Style wigs and hairpieces for productions
9. CUAMUP512 Design and apply specialised make-up
10. CUAMUP513 Design and apply special make-up effects
11. CUASFX411 Create special effects items
12. SHBHDES004 Create classic long hair up-styles
13. SHBHDES005 Select and apply hair extensions
14. BSBCRT512 Originate and develop concepts
15. BSBCRT413 Collaborate in creative processes

5.2 Industry placement

No industry placements are required to complete the CUA51020 Diploma of Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services).

5.3 Course duration

In accordance with ASQA requirements, the volume of learning required to complete the course is to be at least 1200 hours. 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 in order 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.

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