

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

For those looking to get into the industry, we recommend you take a moment to consider if you have the right attributes to work in resources. Ask yourself:

- ◆ Do I have a positive approach and absolute commitment to safety?
- ◆ Am I drug free?
- ◆ Am I comfortable working away from home for long periods (one to six weeks at a time), or willing to relocate to a typically remote location?
- ◆ Am I fit and healthy to work in extreme temperatures, isolated and sometimes, dark, damp confined environments?
- ◆ Am I comfortable working (and living) with very diverse people from all walks of life – and often with very different backgrounds to my own?
- ◆ Am I flexible to work shift work and stay back on roster for longer when needed?
- ◆ Am I prepared to do training courses and fly to my place of work during my designated time off roster?
- ◆ For off shore jobs, am I prepared to undertake Helicopter Underwater Emergency Training (HUET*)?
- ◆ Am I prepared to complete an apprenticeship over a number of years, or to obtain the necessary tickets and licenses required (often in my own time and at my expense)?

*This training requires you to be secured in a helicopter cabin in a training facility, propelled at speed and submerged upside down in a swimming pool. You are required, after extensive training, to un-do your seat belt and exit the cabin safely and calmly whilst underwater.

To secure employment in the resources sector, whether it is with a contracting company, supplier or resources organisation, the minimum requirements are typically consistent. You will need:

- ◆ To complete a pre-employment medical at the company's request, or as a minimum provide a medical clearance certificate from a GP. Some medicals may also require you to complete a Functional Capacity Assessment, which is an evaluation of your ability to safely perform the physical requirements of the role.
- ◆ A current First Aid Certificate.
- ◆ To complete a MWHS (Mine Workers Health Surveillance) test. This is usually organised by the hiring company.
- ◆ To complete a MARCSTA (WA) or ESSENTRA (NSW), or other similar entry level safety induction program as required by employers.
- ◆ A valid (ie within the State you are being employed) clean drivers license, preferably manual (most sites will require you to drive a manual vehicle at some point).
- ◆ A Federal Police Clearance.
- ◆ To pass a drug and alcohol test.
- ◆ To provide two valid work referees.
- ◆ To produce original copies of all and any relevant qualifications, tickets and/or licenses.
- ◆ For offshore oil and gas positions:
 - a current HUET ticket (Helicopter Underwater Escape Training); for either cold water locations like Bass Strait or Tbosiet for tropical waters like the North West Shelf.

- A Miscellaneous Card – Marine Identification Security Card (whilst this is not required for all jobs, it is recommended that you do have it)
- ◆ To be 18 years of age (in some cases, entry may be at a younger age, eg apprentices).

Companies will seek individuals who:

- Have a commitment to safe work practices;
- Have a sound level of numeracy and literacy, particularly with regard to reading and interpreting safety and work instructions;
- Have the ability to work effectively with others in a team environment;
- Can maintain focus and output over a 12 hour shift and on roster, and often under pressure in extreme temperatures and environments;
- Have the ability to use time effectively to complete tasks in a safe manner;
- Are reliable, responsible and flexible to changing priorities;
- Have and maintain an appropriate level of physical fitness;
- Are interested in working in remote locations for long periods;
- Are mechanically inclined (as Operator and Technician roles require the operation of equipment, the ability to identify faults and problems is a recognised bonus);
- Have a basic level of computer literacy.

Health and Safety - what you need to know

Mining, and oil and gas can be a dangerous occupation. The industry has very strict rules and regulations to ensure the safety and health of workers. Employers must demonstrate they have documented safe work procedures and that all employees mandatorily wear personal protective equipment like facemasks, gloves, long sleeved shirts and pants, steel capped boots and helmets.

Despite this, workers in underground mines are still at risk of exposure to harmful gases, cave ins, explosion and electric shock. Similarly, those working in open cut or surface operations are typically exposed to extreme temperatures.

Offshore, there is the risk of explosion or fire.

In all environments, you will require good physical strength, as there is plenty of climbing, lifting and stooping involved. You need to be very mindful that your weight can have a negative impact on your ability to secure a role – candidates with high BMI may be considered a health risk and unable to fit in and operate certain equipment. It is stressed that maintaining a healthy lifestyle, together with a fitness regime is paramount in ensuring your ongoing success in the industry.

Over the years the rate of work related injury has decreased in this industry, as a result of tighter government standards and a significant improvement in work practices. In selecting your employer, it is strongly encouraged that you make your own enquiries as to the safe work practices of the organisation and their commitment to zero harm.

You are encouraged to read 'The Pre-Employment Medical' section to be familiar with the entry level requirements to obtain work.