

Specification for the purchase of sun-smart clothing

Schools officers, unit support officers, boat officers and agricultural assistants are required to perform a range of duties to manage school facilities and grounds or prepare equipment, resources or facilities for school curriculum activities. The majority of these tasks are performed outdoors. For outdoor workers, the workplace is a major source of exposure to ultraviolet radiation, placing them at possible risk of skin cancer. The Department of Education (DoE) is committed to providing a healthy and safe work environment for everyone at school. Sun-smart clothing is to be provided for schools officers, unit officers, boat officers and agricultural assistants as part of this commitment to creating healthy and safe work environments. It is also important that school staff model safe behaviour to support the sun safety strategy for students.

Where is the funding coming from?

Schools are required to budget for the ongoing replacement of sun-smart clothing and the provision of sun-smart clothing for new staff appointed to these roles in the future.

How is the clothing to be purchased?

The sun-smart clothing can be procured by:

- purchasing products that meet the specifications on the following pages from [Queensland Government Standing Offer Arrangement QGCPO796-10](#). See your school's purchasing officer to assist with the supply of sun-smart clothing through this guide; or
- if there is [genuine urgency](#) (DoE staff access only) – by purchasing products that meet the specifications from a local supplier.

What should be provided?

Full time staff in the specified staff groups listed above should be provided with the following as a minimum:

- long-sleeved collared shirts (3)
- long pants/trousers (3)
- broad brimmed hat (1)
- safety sunglasses (1 pair)
- sunscreen.

Replacement of sun-smart clothing

The initial supply of sun-smart shirts is to be replaced on the basis of reasonable wear and tear. Sun safe clothing should be replaced once it has reached a condition where their sun safety features have been impaired and not able to provide the necessary level of protection. Schools are responsible for the purchase of replacement sun-smart clothing.

Further information

- Health & Safety for Schools Officers Resource Folder – hard copy folder with green cover – or [here](#), which includes:
 - Selection of PPE – fact sheets
 - PPE register

Sun-smart shirts – minimum specification

All sun-smart clothing purchased must comply with the following specification:

- Shirts must be long sleeved and collared.
- The shirts must be comprised of fabric rated UPF 50+.
- Lightweight, cool fabrics may be preferred.
- The colour is optional.



Pictures of shirts are for illustration purposes only. Styles and colours will vary.

Sun-smart pants/trousers – minimum specification

All sun-smart pants/trousers purchased must comply with the following specification:

- Pants/trousers must be full length.
- The pants/trousers must be comprised of fabric rated UPF 50+.
- Lightweight, cool fabrics may be preferred.
- The colour is optional.



Pictures of pants/trousers are for illustration purposes only. Styles and colours will vary.

Sun-smart hats – minimum specification

- All hats must have a minimum brim size of 7.5 cm.
- Colour and style is optional.

Note: caps and visors do not provide adequate protection from ultraviolet radiation and should not be purchased for schools officers.



Pictures of hats are for illustration purposes only. Styles and colours will vary.

Safety sunglasses – minimum specification

- All safety sunglasses shall comply with [Australian Standard AS/NZS 1336:1997 Recommended practices for occupational eye protection](#).
- Wrap around style glasses are preferred. Darker lenses provide greater protection against glare from reflective surfaces.
- Colour and style is optional.



Pictures of safety sunglasses are for illustration purposes only. Styles and colours will vary.

Sunscreen – minimum specification

- All sunscreen purchased shall be broad spectrum, water resistant and rated SPF 30+.
- Pump packs may allow for easier use.



Pictures of sunscreen dispensers are for illustration purposes only.

More information

- Contact [Regional Senior Health and Safety Consultants](#) for health and safety enquiries