

MEAT SAFETY INSPECTOR

ALSO KNOWN AS:

PRIMARY PRODUCTS INSPECTOR

QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST

FOOD SAFETY AUDITOR

SAFEGUARD PUBLIC HEALTH AS A MEAT SAFETY INSPECTOR.

Be the vigilant guardian of food safety standards, ensuring that every piece of meat that reaches consumers is wholesome and fit for consumption.

KEY SKILLS

Skills which may benefit anyone considering a job as a meat safety inspector include:

- ✓ Analytical skills
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Inspection skills
- ✓ Regulatory knowledge
- ✓ Written communication

CAREER PROGRESSION

In this role, you may have the opportunity to progress to other positions. Career progression opportunities include:

- Team Leader
- Meat Processing Supervisor/Manager
- Agricultural Engineer
- Operations Manager

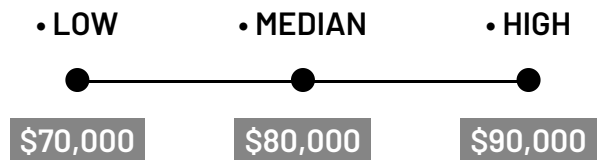
VALUES & ATTRIBUTES

Values and attributes of anyone considering a job as a meat safety inspector include:

- ✓ Vigilant
- ✓ Ethical
- ✓ Diligent
- ✓ Objective
- ✓ Responsible
- ✓ Investigative – “Thinker”

SALARY EXPECTATION

The expected salary for a meat safety inspector can vary across different areas of manufacturing and may vary as you become more experienced.



RELATED INDUSTRIES

► Food and Beverage ► Meat and Seafood Processing

RECOMMENDED SCHOOL SUBJECTS

- Agricultural Practices
- Agricultural Science
- Hospitality Practices

CORE SCHOOL SUBJECTS

- Essential Mathematics
- Essential English
- Food and Nutrition

JOB OVERVIEW

As a Meat Safety Inspector, you will play a critical role in maintaining the integrity of the meat industry and protecting public health. In this role, you will work in various meat processing facilities, conducting thorough inspections of animals before and after slaughter, as well as examining meat products throughout the processing stages.

This position is an integral ‘final’ measure between biosecurity threats, disease spread and mass consumer ill-health as you will test, sample and educate producers and facilities on safe and high-quality meat harvesting, production, storage and distribution.

In this role your meticulous nature will assist in reducing the incidence of food contamination through monitoring and enforcing food safety standards, investigating potential violations, and providing guidance to ensure the safe selection and preparation of all meat products.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Your role may include duties as follows:

1. Perform inspections of meat processing facilities to ensure compliance with local health and safety regulations.
2. Assess meat quality including freshness, correct labelling, as per industry requirements.
3. Enforce regulations to identify violations and enforce food safety laws.
4. Provide training and education to meat producers and facility staff to correct violations, and/or advise on upcoming changes to legislation regarding best practice for food safety and handling.
5. Monitor staff hygiene practices including sanitation and hygiene procedures for workstations, tools, machines and proper PPE.

HOW TO BECOME A MEAT SAFETY INSPECTOR

To prepare for a career as a meat safety inspector you should:

1. Aim to complete your Year 10 secondary education. Completing Years 11 and 12 will also provide a good foundation and give you access to information through school subjects, teamwork opportunities, and building communication skills.
2. Apply directly to an employer for entry-level positions with an employer, look for employers promoting an apprenticeship or traineeship.
3. Complete on-the-job training, a traineeship with an employer, such as a Certificate II in Meat Processing (Meat Retailing) (AMP20415) or Certificate II in Meat Processing (Food Services) (AMP20117) or Certificate II in Meat Processing (Abattoirs) (AMP20316).
4. Research potential employers in your area via a search engine, social media or job site. Even if there are no jobs advertised with the employer you're interested in, it can be a good idea to send a cover letter with your resume expressing your interest.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

A traineeship is the best pathway to gain employment in this field. You can undertake the following qualification/s as traineeships:

- Certificate III in Meat Safety Inspection (AMP30322)
- Certificate IV in Meat Safety Inspection (AMP40522)

As a trainee you will combine work with formal training, allowing you to gain practical skills and knowledge in a specific industry while earning a salary.

Duration: Traineeships typically last between 12 to 24 months, depending on the specific program and whether you are working full-time or part-time.

Work and study combination: As a trainee, you will work either full-time or part-time while receiving formal training from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

Eligibility: Generally, traineeships do not require formal qualifications to enter, making them accessible to a wide range of individuals, including if you are a school leaver or someone looking to change careers.

Completion: On completion you will receive a nationally recognised qualification, showcasing your skill and experience.

Skills, qualifications, accreditations and licences

As a Meat Safety Inspector, you may choose to pursue other training or certifications, licences and tickets. Qualifications and skills may be required to progress to supervisor or team leader positions.

Qualifications that may help you advance in your career include:

- Certificate IV in Meat Processing (AMP40222)
- Diploma of Meat Processing (AMP50221)

UNIVERSITY & HIGHER EDUCATION

Holding a degree in manufacturing, human resources, finance, economics, marketing or management can be helpful if you are considering taking a step into leadership or a business ownership position.

It could also be useful to hold specialist qualifications in food technology or science:

- Bachelor of Food Science and Technology
- Bachelor of Agricultural Science

To further your career and step into more senior roles, an MBA or other advanced degree may be beneficial.