

The list below includes (but is not limited to) examples of OPD activity and claimable hours that address each competency			
Competency No.	Expected standard of competency	Examples of OPD activity addressing the competency	Claimable hours
1.1.1	Prepares and provides a demonstrably significant contribution to papers given at national conferences, published in soil journals, or publicly available technical reports of a similar standard.	Accepted to give an oral paper or poster published in a conference proceedings related to soil science	5
		Publish a relevant (soil science) paper in an internationally peer-reviewed journal	10
		Release a technical communication relevant to soil science (e.g. CSIRO Technical Bulletin)	5
		Publish a relevant chapter in an edited, refereed book	20
		Edit a relevant book	20
1.1.2	Provides sound recommendations and management of social, ethical and environmental considerations in soil science.	Media interview, press release or community presentation on soil science or related activities	5
		Expert witness in a court of law based on expertise in soil science	5
		Prepare soil aspects of environmental management plans	5
1.1.3	Provides management and application of regulations and legal requirements relating to individuals and industries operating in soil science.	Use and implementation of new Codes and reporting requirements in a relevant industry	5
		Apply relevant regulations, Codes of practice, and industry information as a professional soil science consultant (describe how) – one application only.	up to 7 per day
		Provide changes to inspection systems and regulations based on soil science	5
1.1.4	Initiates and formally contributes to discussions affecting the soil science profession through participation in, and committee membership of, professional and/or industry groups or associations.	Membership and attendance as an elected committee member of a relevant professional organisation	10
		Membership and attendance as an elected member of an executive committee for a relevant professional organisation (e.g. Standards, Accreditation)	10
		Membership on and participation in a relevant regulatory board or panel	5
1.2.1	Manages a soil work program with responsibility for effective and efficient performance of the soils team, and/or manages financial and resource plans for soils programs and projects ensuring satisfactory progress.	Plan projects and/or work programs related to soil science	15
		Make management decisions and/or manages human resources and/or physical resources in an organization where these have a significant soil science focus	15
1.2.2	Develops and implements effective quality assurance procedures and systems for soil programs.	Manage Quality Assurance(QA) in an organization with a significant soil science focus where staff under his/her control have a significant soil science focus, ensures that they comply with relevant legal and regulatory requirements	5
1.2.3	Supervises and/or manages the planning, implementation, reporting and evaluation of soil projects using recognised scientific principles.	Submission of report to government or private organisation containing your name as supervisor/manager (include report number or other verifiable details)	5
1.3.1	Expands knowledge and skills via higher level continuing professional development activities and contributes to the provision of professional development activities in the practice of soil science.	Enrolment in and attendance at a professional continuing education program relevant to soil science (Pro-rata for part-time study)	up to 20
		Enrolment in and attendance at the biennial Soil Science Australia National Soils Conference	up to 7 per day
		Enrol in a university research-based PhD in soil science or discipline involving soil science (Pro-rata for part-time study; No carry over hours)	50
		Enrol in a university non-PhD postgraduate study in soil science or discipline involving soil science (Pro-rata for part-time study; No carry over hours)	25
		Enrol in and attend a distance education program relevant to soil science (Pro-rata for part-time study)	up to 20
		Enrol in and attend a short course relevant to soil science	up to 7 per day
		Enrol in and attend a TAFE or other college course relevant to soil science (Pro-rata for part-time study.)	up to 7 per day
		Enrol in and attend relevant seminars, conferences and workshops presented by organisations other than Soil Science Australia	up to 7 per day
		Enrol in and attend seminars, conferences and workshops organised by Soil Science Australia Branches	up to 7 per day
1.3.2	Maintains and applies up-to-date knowledge of relevant specialised research findings.	Peer review of a book	up to 10
		Publish a relevant article in print media	5
		Maintain up-to-date knowledge of relevant research findings and/or business practices (describe how; maximum 35 hours)	up to 7 per day

1.3.3	Maintains a network of experienced soil scientists and provides mentoring to less experienced soil scientists.	Membership in Soil Science Australia	5
		Membership and attendance at meetings as a member of a relevant professional organisation (maximum of 2 professional organisations other than SSA can be claimed)	5
2.1.1	Interprets, applies and contributes to developing soil science knowledge.	Peer-reviewed report on new soil science submitted to government or private organisation, which contains your name as main contributor or significant part of team responsible for the development (include report number or other verifiable details)	5
2.1.2	Develops sound proposals for determining needs and priorities in soil monitoring and scientific work.	Prepare an original questionnaire for surveys and social research relevant to soil science (first presentation only)	5
2.1.3	Manages the acquisition and implementation of new soil science techniques (including modelling) and improvements to established protocols, methods and practices, exercising innovation and judgment.	Develop new techniques relevant to soil science	10
		Improve established protocols, methods and practices in soil science	5
		Develop cost-effective computer based quantitative tools relevant to soil science	5
		Establish, manage and develop a computerised soil management information system	10
2.1.4	Develops and manages the commissioning and delivery of research and/or development of commercial soil science products or services.	Title, source, and amount of money in a major research grant or commercial contract won (include commercial purpose of the grant/contract, and other verifiable details)	5
2.2.1	Investigates and analyses soil science-based problems and opportunities, and prepares relevant reports, documents and papers containing justifiable, rational conclusions.	Award for professional excellence in a discipline relevant to soil science	up to 10
		Prepare a relevant report as sole author (includes EIS involving soil science expertise)	10
		Prepare a relevant report as co-author (includes EIS involving soil science expertise)	5
		Conduct and lead work in soil classification, soil survey, land evaluation and natural resource surveys	10
2.2.2	Supervises and/or manages the collection and preparation of soil data, analyses soil data, and makes sound recommendations on soil function and management.	Supervision of soil science research students at a university (claim for up to 3 students = 15 hours)	5
2.2.3	Implements procedures for the safe and effective use of soil laboratory or field instruments/equipment (e.g. Safe Work Method Statements).	Develop procedures for safe and effective use of laboratory equipment: application of chemicals to soils, application of new machinery to soils, safe and effective use of soil science field equipment	5
2.2.4	Conducts and manages complex analyses of soil chemical, physical and/or biological properties.	Submission of report to government or private organisation, which clearly shows that you have conducted or managed complex soil analyses (include name of report and other verifiable details)	5
2.2.5	Investigates and models scientific processes involving soils with one or more of water, plants, animals and the environment.	Submission of report to government or private organisation, which clearly shows that you have conducted or managed complex soil analyses (include name of report and other verifiable details)	5
2.2.6	Selects and manages appropriate techniques to maintain or improve soil function.	Develop models for effluent, sewage, sludge or industrial waste on soils	5
2.3.1	Provides authoritative soil advice to improve soil and/or land management decisions of stakeholders.	Submission of report to government or private organisation, which clearly shows the nature of the advice given to improve soil and land management decisions (include name of report and other verifiable details)	5
2.3.2	Provides authoritative technical presentations at field days, field excursions, group discussions, seminars or demonstrations using appropriate soil knowledge to meet the objectives of participants.	Prepare and deliver a presentation at a seminar or conference related to soil science (first presentation only)	5
		Prepare and deliver a presentation at a clinic, workshop, tour or field day related to soil science (first presentation only)	5
		Present a relevant article using radio media (first presentation only)	5
		Produce a relevant article in television media (first presentation only)	5
		Oversee the presentation of field days, field excursions, group discussions, seminars, lectures and demonstrations in soil science (first instance only)	5
		Design, develop and deliver an education program related to soil science (first presentation only)	5
2.3.3	Lectures students on soil science subjects at tertiary level.	Prepare and deliver an original lecture related to soil science to students or peers (first presentation only)	5
		Prepare and deliver original relevant course material or course development related to soil science (first presentation only)	10