

## Careers Information Toolkit





## Processing Meat

### CHEF

#### **ALSO CALLED**

- Chef de Cuisine
- Chef de Partie
- · Commis Chef
- Demi Chef
- · Sous/Second Chef



#### WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- Planning and organising the preparation and cooking of food
  Planning menus, ordering food, kitchen supplies and equipment, preparing and cooking food, dividing food into portions and adding garnishes, freezing and preserving foods
- Supervising and training staff
  Selecting staff, planning staff rosters, supervising activities of cooks and assistants, demonstrating techniques to cooks, advising on cooking procedures, explaining and reinforcing hygiene regulations
- Reporting to management
  Calculating food and labour costs, discussing food preparation issues with managers and dieticians, attending meetings, receiving or issuing instructions from other managerial staff





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#### **WORK CONDITIONS**

- Chefs work in the kitchens of cafes, restaurants and catering facilities.
- Hours are usually set, often including nights, weekends and public holidays with overtime and shift work.
- Depending on the size and structure of the restaurant or catering facility, involvement of the chef in food preparation will vary and there will be a certain amount of time spent supervising and liaising with senior staff.
- The work may be stressful especially at peak hours of the day.
- Chefs who open their own cafes or restaurants may work long and irregular hours in their own businesses.
- Sufficient funds or financial backing are essential to purchase/ lease premises, establish and fit out the café or restaurant and employ staff.
- Small business management skills are essential for the successful operation of a café or restaurant.

#### EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- Chefs should have a high level of personal cleanliness, be punctual and able to organise and supervise a team under pressure and stay calm in difficult situations.
- Expert cooking knowledge and a thorough understanding of all the processes occurring in the kitchen will enhance the success of a chef.
- To be employed as a chef you should have a relevant qualification and experience.
- If you are already working at this level you can have your skills recognised by applying for a qualification with a training provider.
- Chefs may specialise in a particular branch of cooking such as pastries, sauces, roasts, fish, side-dishes and breakfasts.



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Career path	Training Requirements
• Cook	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
You prepare and cook food under the supervision of a chef.	Certificate 3 in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)
• Chef	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
You carry out a range of the above tasks, possibly under the supervision of a head chef (Chef de Cuisine).	Certificate 4 in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)
Catering Manager	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
You organise and control the operations of establishments involved in catering and dining.	Diploma of Hospitality Management
Café / Restaurant Owner	VOCATIONAL TRAINING
You establish your own cafe or restaurant, usually employing other staff.	Advanced Diploma of Hospitality Management

### Related Jobs

- Food technologist
- Rural business owner/manager
- Meat retailer
- Smallgoods maker

