

Course disclaimer | X-ray Operator Introductory Course

The X-ray Operator (XO) Introductory Course (the course) aligns with the Queensland Health [X-ray Operator Services Guideline](#) and [X-ray Operator Services Framework](#). It is essential applicants review the requirements below to ensure this course and role is the right fit for them. All interested candidates should spend 1-2 days work shadowing their local RA to ensure a basic understanding of the role prior to applying for the course.

Course requirements

The X-ray Operator course requires participants to attend:

- a 4-day VC tutorial block to complete the online theory component. Non-clinical staff are required to attend a consecutive 5th day
- a day with Radiographic Advisor (RA) to complete a local orientation to equipment and systems
- an offsite practical workshop of 3-5 days (duration dependent on location).

Across a span of around two months, an estimated total of 50–80 hours of offline time will be required to complete the theory component of the coursework. The course assumes participant knowledge of:

- basic IT skills and an ability to learn relevant physics and anatomy
- a sound foundation in mathematics and literacy
- facility manager and Radiographic Advisor (RA) support.

XO role requirements

Candidates should reflect on the X-ray examinations they observed their RA perform, and consider their opportunity to meet the following [XO role requirements](#) on a consistent and ongoing basis:

- ability to perform X-ray examinations at short notice, which generally take 30–60 minutes
- reasonable participation in the local X-ray service, which may include on-call duties
- willingness to actively participate in learning, supervision and competency assessment activities, and accept constructive feedback. All trainee XOs will undertake a structured Learning Portfolio during the trainee licence period
- ability to work within scope of practice and legislative requirements and seek help when appropriate. This includes escalating concerns, reporting radiation safety breaches, contacting RA for assistance
- strong communication, interpersonal and teamwork skills to engage respectfully with patients, carers, referrers, radiographers, and other clinicians
- a sound foundation in mathematics, literacy and basic radiation physics
- basic IT skills to communicate remotely with RA and accurately manage data and digital systems
- a level of functional mobility to perform X-ray examinations, e.g. use both arms above head height, move beds and large equipment, squat to check underneath ED trolley.

Candidates from a non-clinical background must have access to additional local support to build knowledge of duty of care, privacy obligations and patient care.

Any questions regarding any assumed knowledge, or need for additional support throughout the course, should be raised with the AHET Radiographers prior to application, via x-ray-operator-support@health.qld.gov.au or 4699 8097.