

ASQ-TRAK PRACTITIONER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Supporting the implementation of the ASQ-TRAK developmental screening tool

What is the ASQ-TRAK?

The **A**ges and **S**tages **Q**uestionnaire - **T**alking about **R**aising **A**boriginal **K**ids (ASQ-TRAK) is a developmental screening tool, used to observe and monitor the developmental progress of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children.

The ASQ-TRAK is an easy-to-use, family-centred tool that highlights a child's strengths as well as catching delays early. It is designed to be administered by interview, making caregivers co-observers in the process while teaching them about child development and their own child's skills.



Image: ASQ-TRAK2 Tool Kit

The ASQ-TRAK is based on the Ages and Stages Questionnaires®, 3rd edition – the ASQ®-3 – which was adapted to create a more culturally appropriate version of the tool for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children.

Key differences

- Modified English
- All items illustrated
- Administered by caregiver interview

98%

of caregivers report that the ASQ-TRAK is highly acceptable

The ASQ-TRAK developmental screening tool and the ASQ-TRAK toy kit are distributed by the Royal Children's Hospital Shop.

*"We've never had families ask us before [ASQ-TRAK] when their child is due! But now **families are also building their capacity** in relation to their children's development and are starting to understand more broadly why developmental screening is important."*

Lesley Richardson, Program Lead, Connected Beginnings, Groote Eylandt

What is ASQ-TRAK practitioner education program?

The University of Melbourne provides an educational program for organisations and individuals across Australia to practitioners, i.e. anyone who is planning to use, or currently use, the ASQ-TRAK in their workplace.

It is an evidence-based program that builds the capacity and capability of practitioners who work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families so that practitioners are equipped to provide culturally responsive and effective developmental care using the ASQ-TRAK.

The program consists of a two-day workshop and ½ day workplace practice session:

Day 1 - Workshop

- Principles of early child development
- Developmental milestones & monitoring
- Risk and resilience in early childhood

Day 2 - Workshop

- ASQ-TRAK administration
- Scoring the ASQ-TRAK
- Providing feedback to families
- Strategies for ensuring good practice

1/2 Day - Workplace Practice Task

- Peer-observed ASQ-TRAK administration

“A key challenge to the provision of quality developmental care for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities has been the absence of culturally appropriate, structured developmental screening tools.

Now we must ensure that the tool we do have — the ASQ-TRAK— is being used in a way that is consistent with its design and is culturally safe. To achieve this, we need to support services to implement the ASQ-TRAK appropriately.”

Associate Professor Anita D’Aprano, Clinical Lead, STRONG kids, STRONG future, The University of Melbourne

Who should complete the ASQ-TRAK practitioner education program?

The program is suitable for all staff working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

Including:

- Aboriginal Health Practitioners
- Child Health Nurses
- Early Childhood Educators
- Allied Health Practitioners
- Community Based workers

“I enjoyed everything in the ASQ-TRAK practitioner workshop. It was comprehensive and combined both participant and facilitator knowledge... it was exceptionally well done! I will copy the flow, and the way it was presented, at my community health centres.”

Raelene Brunette, Aboriginal Health Practitioner, Sunrise Health Service

Why is the ASQ-TRAK practitioner education program needed?

Our Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander colleagues and collaborators advise that without education, there is a risk that the way the tool is administered is not culturally responsive.

- The program ensures the ASQ-TRAK is used in the way it has been co-designed to be implemented and maintains the cultural safety and quality of the tool.
- Unlike the ASQ®-3, the ASQ-TRAK is administered by caregiver interview. So, while the tools are similar, the **administration is different**.
- The program has been developed from **culturally appropriate** professional learning methods.
- The program improves practitioners’ **skills, knowledge, competence, and confidence** to identify and manage developmental difficulties and promote child development.

97%

of practitioners report increased confidence talking to caregivers about child development

96%

of practitioners report increased confidence in detecting developmental concerns

96%

of practitioners report increased confidence giving advice to caregivers

What are the costs?

ASQ-TRAK Practitioner Workshop Costs

An ASQ-TRAK Practitioner workshop (the first step of the education program) is face-to-face, interactive and run over two days in a small group of 14 participants. Centralised workshops are offered in some major cities across Australia for individuals seeking to become ASQ-TRAK practitioners. Workshops are delivered by accredited STRONG kids, STRONG future facilitators.

Individual place at Centralised workshop	2025/2026 Rate (excl. GST)	2026/2027 Rate (excl. GST)
	\$2,400	\$2,650

Please note that from the 1st of July 2026 (26-27 FY), a CPI-linked cost increase is applied to reflect the rise in ASQ-TRAK workshop delivery costs.

When is my place at an ASQ-TRAK Practitioner Workshop confirmed?

Your place is only confirmed **upon receipt of payment** for the ASQ-TRAK Practitioner Workshop.

We are unable to hold your place in a workshop beyond the 30-day invoice period. If payment is not received in the invoice period, your place at your selected workshop will be re-opened for other individuals, and the invoice will be cancelled. We will send a reminder one week prior to the payment due date.

Terms and conditions

Inclusions

The ASQ-TRAK Practitioner Workshop **includes**:

- Accredited ASQ-TRAK Facilitators
- All learning materials (workbooks, resources supporting interactive small group activities)
- Pre- and post-workshop support
- Certification for 12 months
- Access to an online resource hub
- Access to Booster Webinars for 12 months
- Access to Community of Practice for 12 months
- Access to the ASQ-TRAK Tool kit and Toy Kit for the 2-day workshop
- Meals during the 2-day workshop

Exclusions

The final price **does not include**:

- Participant travel and accommodation
- Any costs associated with participants' completion of the workplace practice task.
- The ASQ-TRAK tool kits or ASQ-TRAK toy kits.

Cancellations

We understand that things can change, and cancellations may be necessary. We will always do everything we can to ensure you have the greatest chance of a refund.

Cancellations by you

Once your booking is confirmed, we incur costs to provide the ASQ-TRAK Practitioner Education Program. If you need to cancel your workshop booking, you must provide STRONG kids, STRONG future team with written notice. Your cancellation will take effect upon receipt.

Calendar weeks <i>Calculated as weeks prior to Day 1 of the Workshop</i>	Refund
12 weeks* or more	Full Refund
5 weeks – 11 weeks and we <i>can</i> fill your place/s	Full Refund
5 weeks – 11 weeks and we <i>cannot</i> fill your place/s	50% Refund
4 weeks or less	No Refund

* The 12-week notice period provides for the planning and administration required for workshop logistics.

Cancellations by us

We reserve the right to cancel the ASQ-TRAK Practitioner Workshop in the event of exceptional circumstances or unforeseen events beyond our control. In such cases, STRONG kids, STRONG future will notify participants as soon as possible and provide alternatives where appropriate, including different dates for workshop delivery or a full refund. This policy is not intended to exclude or limit any rights which the participant may have under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010.

Processing refunds

Refunds will be processed the week before the ASQ-TRAK practitioner workshop delivery dates. This will allow the greatest amount of time for us to try and fill your cancelled booking - ensuring that you have the greatest possibility of receiving it in full.

ASQ-TRAK Practitioner Education Program – Information Guide for Centralised Workshops

This work is copyright. To request permission to reproduce any part of this material please contact STRONG kids, STRONG future. The STRONG kids, STRONG future team is based at the University of Melbourne. The team works in partnership with community on activities focused on research, development, education and implementation of culturally appropriate development measures for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

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