Field of Research (FoR) Codes: Guidelines for ERA

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND STANDARD RESEARCH CLASSIFICATION (ANZSRC) ABS Catalogue No. 1297.0 – 31 March 2008

http://www.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/6BB427AB9696C225CA2574180004463E?opendocument

Classification and structure

The Field of Research (FoR) classification has three hierarchical levels, Divisions (at the broadest level) and Groups and Fields (at the finest level). Each level is identified by a unique number. The 2-digit Division represents a broad subject area or research discipline while 4-digit Groups and 6-digit Fields within represent increasingly detailed dissections of these categories. The FoR classification has 22 Divisions, 157 Groups and 1238 Fields.

The hierarchical structure of the FoR is illustrated below:

Level	Example
Division	09 Engineering
Group	0901 Aerospace Engineering
Field	090101 Aerodynamics (excl. Hypersonic Aerodynamics)

Guidelines for Classifying by Fields of Research for ERA

In ERA the FoR codes are applied at the 4-digit Group level to people, research outputs, income, patents and applied and esteem measures. Consistent use of the following general procedures should ensure reliable and successful use of the classification. The ANZSRC FoR allows Research and Development (R&D) activity to be categorised according to the methodology used in the R&D, rather than the activity of the unit performing the R&D or the purpose of the R&D. A research project or research program is to be allocated to a FoR 4-digit Group in a hierarchical manner.

This is achieved by:

> - determining the 2-digit Division in which the largest component of the research methodology is being performed; then,

> - determining the most relevant 4-digit Group within that 2-digit Division.

It is useful to pay attention to the exclusions at the 4-digit Group and 6-digit Field levels as these provide direction on what to include and exclude.

Where a defined 6-digit Field cannot be identified within a 4-digit Group level, the 'not elsewhere classified' category is to be used.