



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMBEH404 Condition animal behaviour

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.

Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has conditioned at least two animals of different life stages using behavioural conditioning techniques, including the following for each animal:

- prepared and implemented an individual conditioning plan for a desirable behaviour, incorporating:
 - the application of animal learning principles in relation to conditioning techniques
 - industry best practice positive reinforcement techniques and tools to condition/shape behaviour
- maintained accurate records of behaviour being conditioned
- prepared information and demonstrated the process for a conditioned reinforcer, to a minimum of two stakeholders, by training two different simple behaviours.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- normal and maladaptive animal behaviour and behaviour patterns relevant to species and the individual animal to be conditioned
- appropriate behaviours that can be trained, relevant to species
- signs of stress in animals to be conditioned
- purposes of conditioning or training animals
- key concepts of animal learning, conditioning and training, including:
 - associative learning – operant and classical conditioning, including extinction
 - non-associative learning – habituation and sensitisation
 - primary and secondary reinforcers
 - schedules of reinforcement

- positive reinforcement conditioning techniques and tools, including:
 - luring
 - targeting
 - capturing and shaping (prompting and free)
- overview of key features, benefits and limitations of guidelines for animal trainers, including:
 - Least Intrusive Effective Behaviour Intervention (LIEBI model)
 - Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive (LIMA) training
 - Hierarchy of Procedures for Humane and Effective Practice
- key principles of animal welfare and ethics
- safe, low stress techniques and equipment used in conditioning
- workplace policies and procedures, including health and safety and animal welfare relevant to conditioning animals.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an animal care facility or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live animals as required for the performance evidence
 - tools for reinforcing desirable behaviours in the animals
- specifications:
 - workplace policies and procedures relevant to conditioning animals, including safety and infection control
- relationships:
 - stakeholders specified in the performance evidence (carer, owner, team member, supervisor or animal health worker).

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>