



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU407 Educate horses in initial handling

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 3.0.

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:

- carried out activities to educate three horses in initial handling according to a plan prepared for each individual horse
- demonstrated safe horse handling skills and appropriate education techniques to ensure their own and others' safety and the welfare of the horse at all times.

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:

- safe work practices when interacting with horses, including:
 - assessing and controlling risks
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - safe zones around horses
 - duty of care for others
 - use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for activity
 - safe and suitable transport vehicles and towing requirements for horses
 - codes of practice and workplace procedures for housing, transport and interactions with horses
- horse wellbeing, including:
 - managing stress, fatigue, heat and injuries
 - overview of animal welfare assessment frameworks, including Five Domains and Five Freedoms models
- key indicators for assessing conformation, condition and health of horses relating to education program
- equine behaviour, including:

- body language and vocalisation
- affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue
- temperament and characteristics of different breeds and classes of horses
- behaviours and conditions typically linked to strong fight or flight response, including:
 - fearful, nervous, timid, anxious behaviour
 - aggressive responses to people and/or other equines
 - fears of specific stimuli
- risks to people from equine behaviour, including biting, kicking, rearing, striking
- key features of current research on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning abilities relevant to training horses
- techniques to shape or modify horse behaviour
- safe environments and controlled areas, including arenas or fenced tracks
- range of tack, equipment and aids used in education exercises for horses, including rug, halter and lead rope
- key features of horse education plan, including objectives, stages and timeframes
- key forms and features of transport vehicles, including configuration and access for loading and unloading.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions, including round yards or enclosed arenas suitable for educating horses in initial handling
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - variety of horses – appropriately uneducated for the purpose of the education activities in the performance evidence
 - PPE correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual
 - appropriate tack and gear required for education program
 - horse transport vehicle
- relationships:
 - assistant handler, if required.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

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>

