



**Australian Government**

# **Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU408 Educate horses to be ridden**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU408 Educate horses to be ridden

## 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:

- completed a risk assessment of each horse to be educated
- prepared suitable facilities and environments for each horse's education program and stage
- educated three horses to be ridden, including:
  - in mouthing the horse in groundwork
  - in controlled and open areas
  - in walk, trot and canter; and halt/stop and left/right hand turns
  - individually and in company of other horses
- demonstrated safe horse handling and riding 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
- horse wellbeing, including:
  - managing stress, fatigue, heat and injuries

- overview of animal welfare assessment frameworks, including Five Domains and Five Freedoms models
- equine behaviour, including:
  - body language and vocalisations
  - temperament and characteristics of different breeds and classes of horses
  - affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue
  - behaviours typically linked to strong fight or flight response
  - high-risk behaviours to people, including biting, kicking, bucking, striking and rearing
- indicators of horse health status, including body, condition, feet, teeth, injuries and stage of development
- key features of current research on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning abilities relevant to training horses
- methodology or techniques to shape or modify horse behaviour
- facilities and environments used in educating a horse to be ridden, including:
  - controlled areas with appropriate surface – arenas, fenced tracks, round yard, stockyards
  - open areas
- tack and equipment used for riding, including:
  - purpose of items
  - correct fit
  - how to check condition and working order
- key features of horse education plan, including objectives, stages and timeframes
- strategies to assess riding ability level of others and their experience in riding recently educated ('green') horses.

## 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 safe controlled and open areas
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - a variety of horses – appropriately educated in initial handling skills 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 for horse
- 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>