



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for  
ACMEXH301 Work within a zoological  
facility**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for ACMEXH301 Work within a zoological facility

## 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:

- completed at least three daily section or enclosure routines or ‘rounds’, undertaking a total of at least four different work tasks commonly carried out in a zoological facility, selected from the following list:
  - preparing food for an individual animal or a group of animals
  - replenishing food stores or cleaning food storage areas
  - providing food and water to animals
  - cleaning bedding or housing areas
  - cleaning excrement from enclosure
  - maintaining or replacing enrichment items or activities
  - observing and recording indicators of animal health including presence of disease or injury
  - assisting with the administration of routine preventative health procedures or treatments
  - observing and recording specific animal behaviour for individual or social groups
  - taking and recording measurements, weights or other data relating to the animal
  - checking enclosure security for potential animal escapes or breaches in containment
  - checking for signs of entry of pest species
- communicated relevant information and completed required records for each task completed in the daily section routines or ‘rounds’ above
- identified two hazards and demonstrated risk controls related to animal interactions and security in the animal facility
- selected and used personal protective equipment
- participated in one response activity drill or simulation for escaped animal incident or emergency
- worked collaboratively with at least two team members undertaking routine tasks

- applied safe, low stress and humane handling or interaction procedures for two different animals
- identified at least two different animals accurately using species-specific information and knowledge of distinguishing features.

## 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:

- principles and practices for working in a zoological facility
- routine tasks relating to working within a section or enclosure in a zoological facility including:
  - preparing food for an individual animal or a group of animals
  - replenishing food stores or cleaning food storage areas
  - providing food and water to animals
  - cleaning bedding or housing areas
  - cleaning excrement from enclosure
  - maintaining or replacing enrichment items or activities
  - observing and recording indicators of animal health including presence of disease or injury
  - assisting with the administration of routine preventative health procedures or treatments
  - observing and recording specific animal behaviour for individual or social groups
  - taking and recording measurements, weights or other data relating to the animal
  - checking enclosure security for potential animal escapes or breaches in containment
  - checking for signs of entry of pest species
- functions of zoological facilities (conservation, education, recreation, research, breeding) in the context of:
  - World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) and World Zoo Conservation Strategy (WZCS)
  - role of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
  - Conservation Planning Specialist Group
  - Zoo and Aquarium Association (ZAA)
- principles of animal welfare, including positive states for:
  - nutrition
  - environment
  - health
  - behaviour
  - wellbeing – mental/affective state
- key compliance requirements of:
  - relevant animal/wildlife state or territory legislation, regulations and codes of practice and international agreements and conventions

- Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines
- animal taxonomy from species to family level
- characteristics and distinguishing features of animals housed in facility, including:
  - age, sex and size
  - coat or skin colours and texture
  - eye colour
  - markings, patterns and permanent scars
  - microchip, ear tags, tattoos and markings, and leg bands
- basic animal behaviour and the potential effects of captive care
- bodies and agencies that contribute to captive/exhibited animal care, including:
  - animal welfare and rescue groups
  - government departments and statutory bodies
  - industry associations, including Australian Society of Zoo Keeping (ASZK)
  - other animal facilities
  - research organisations
- personal protective equipment relevant to tasks and for infection control
- safe species-specific handling techniques for animals relevant to job role
- facility's policies and procedures, including animal interaction, security and emergency procedures
- communication procedures and record-keeping systems, relevant to the facility and the individual's work responsibilities.

## Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
  - a zoological facility
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - equipment and resources for working in a zoological facility
  - personal protective equipment relevant to task
  - live animals
  - record-keeping system
- specifications:
  - facility policies and procedures, covering animal interaction, security and emergency procedures
- relationships:
  - supervisor and team members.

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>