



Australian Government

ACMATE307 Work within an animal technology facility

Release: 1

ACMATE307 Work within an animal technology facility

Modification History

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

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to work in an animal technology facility.

The unit applies to individuals who work under strict supervision as junior or assistant level animal technicians, working with and caring for animals used within an animal technology environment for scientific purposes.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Animal Technology (ATE)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Work effectively within an animal technology facility	1.1 Identify role of the animal technology facility within the context of relevant legislative requirements 1.2 Determine roles and relationships between departments or individuals 1.3 Identify relationships with other bodies and agencies 1.4 Use industry terminology related to work procedures, equipment and animal management

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.5 Complete daily routines according to organisational health and safety and environmental requirements and work practices
2. Work ethically with animals	2.1 Perform personal work practices to comply with organisational policies, procedures and guidelines 2.2 Interpret and comply with relevant codes, regulations and legislation related to the ethical treatment of animals in workplaces requiring animal technicians 2.3 Comply with biosecurity protocols and organisational procedures to ensure the health and safety of animals and staff
3. Identify animals	3.1 Use common and scientific names to identify animals 3.2 Use distinguishing characteristics to identify specific animals 3.3 Use appropriate methods to identify specific animals within a group 3.4 Accurately record animal identification details in the organisational management system according to organisational procedures
4. Identify and observe approved euthanasia or humane killing practice in an animal technology facility	4.1 Identify the reasons for implementing euthanasia and humane killing in an animal laboratory and research context 4.2 Identify appropriate process and species-specific approved methods for euthanasia or humane killing used in the facility 4.3 Observe or assist with approved animal euthanasia or humane killing
5. Recognise and respond to issues related to working in an animal technology facility	5.1 Identify situations or incidents related to animal technology work that may contribute to mental health and wellbeing, including compassion fatigue 5.2 Anticipate, recognise and respond to signs indicating mental health issues, including compassion fatigue, in self and others 5.3 Identify coping strategies and tools to maintain mental health issues 5.4 Contribute to team strategies to address challenges relating to animal technology work
6. Comply with industry-specific health and safety requirements	6.1 Perform job-specific work practices according to organisational and regulatory health and safety and environmental requirements 6.2 Comply with workplace security procedures

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	6.3 Communicate clearly and seek assistance from the appropriate person to improve performance and provide guidance 6.4 Identify and report unusual activity and breaches in compliance

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	Read and interpret texts, including illustrations and diagrams, to identify common and scientific names for commonly used animals
Writing	Complete workplace forms accurately and completely to document observations, measurements, treatments and decisions on animal care
Interact with others	Work collaboratively with own team and researchers within the animal technology facility
Get the work done	Plan and organise routine daily tasks, identifying possible safety and animal welfare risks

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMATE307 Work within an animal technology facility	ACMATE301 Work within an animal technology facility	Updated unit code Minor changes to performance criteria and knowledge evidence for clarity New element 4 on euthanasia or humane killing; revised element 5 to address mental health issues Revised performance evidence	No equivalent unit

		to reduce duplication with performance criteria	
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Links

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

Assessment Requirements for ACMATE307 Work within an animal technology facility

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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 work tasks within an animal technology facility safely and ethically, according to organisational procedures, on at least three occasions
- assisted with or observed animal euthanasia or humane killing on at least one occasion, explaining appropriate approved species-specific method and process
- maintained accurate records for each task using relevant organisational management systems
- contributed to a team meeting to discuss challenges relating to animal technology work.

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:

- common and scientific names and distinguishing characteristics of animals relevant to the workplace
- principles and practices of animal technology work
- structure of the major animal technology sectors and associated external bodies and agencies
- workplace departments and sections, staffing structures and protocols
- organisational policies and safe work procedures, including:
 - health and safety and emergency procedures
 - biohazards in the workplace of significance to animals and humans
 - reasons for workplace security procedures
 - communication procedures and systems, and technology relevant to the organisation and the individual's work responsibilities
 - organisational expectations of conduct, presentation and work performance, including quality and productivity

- animal euthanasia/humane killing in a laboratory or research context, including:
 - definitions of euthanasia and humane killing
 - reasons for conducting euthanasia and humane killing
 - role of the Animal Ethics Committee
 - process for checking that an animal is dead
 - species-specific approved euthanasia/humane killing methods and process
- key features of codes and legislative frameworks governing work in an animal research facility, including:
 - protocols, legal and ethical considerations in documenting observations, measurements, treatments and decisions on animal care
 - relevant animal technology regulations and codes, including the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes
 - relevant state or territory regulations relating to work with animals for scientific purposes
 - standards, guidelines and approaches to biosecurity, environmental impacts and sustainability relevant to the animal care industry
 - animal welfare and ethics relevant to animal technology facilities, including the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction and Refinement) and 5 Domains
 - organisational policies for privacy and confidentiality of information, and intellectual property
- factors related to animal technology work that can impact on an individual's mental wellbeing and health, including:
 - community attitudes and expectations regarding animal research
 - media and social media
 - common animal technology work activities that can impact personal wellbeing
 - dealing with difficult people or issues within the workplace
- indicators of mental health in people, including compassion fatigue, related to animal care work
- basic coping strategies and tools for work in animal technology.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions.

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

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