



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMCAN304 Prepare and maintain animal housing

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

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 maintained housing for at least two different captive animals, including:

- identified the physical and behavioural requirements of each captive animal
- identified the enclosure and enclosure furniture requirements for each animal
- carried out routine maintenance activities with minimal disturbance to animal
- followed safe work procedures
- accurately recorded and reported enclosure maintenance information.

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:

- requirements of different types of animal enclosures, including:
 - aquaria
 - aviaries
 - cages
 - habitat boxes
 - paddocks
 - walk-through or closed-off enclosures
- behavioural requirements of captive animals, including:
 - environments that replicate normal feeding behaviour
 - environments that provide appropriate stimulation for the animals
 - normal activity patterns:
 - crepuscular
 - diurnal

- nocturnal
- physical requirements:
 - appropriate space and/or features based on whether animal is arboreal, terrestrial or aquatic
 - appropriate substrate
 - temperature and humidity regimes
- appropriate furniture for different animal enclosures, including:
 - shading, shelters, walkways and behavioural enrichment features:
 - branches, logs, rocks and vines
 - landscaping
 - vegetation
 - water features
- appropriate enclosure security maintenance, including:
 - checking for pests within animal housing or enclosures
 - checking there are no unauthorised people in animal enclosures
 - checking that locks and slides are in good working order
 - considering compatibility of species and breeds within housing
 - ensuring animals are safe and secure in their housing
 - identifying any animal housing faults that may result in escape
 - maintaining structures in good order
- WHS risks when handling captive animals, including:
 - animal bites, envenomation, kicks, scratches and crush injuries if working in with the animal or the animal has potential to reach keeper through barriers
 - biological hazardous waste and sharps disposal
 - handling of chemicals and medicines
 - inhalation of aerosol particles
 - intraocular contamination
 - manual handling, including carrying, lifting and shifting
 - moving parts of machinery or equipment
 - noise, including machinery and some animals
 - repetitive strain injury
 - slippery or uneven work surfaces
 - zoonoses
- safe usage of maintenance equipment, including:
 - blowers
 - cleaning agents
 - mowers
 - pressure cleaners
 - rakes and spades
 - secateurs

- wheelbarrows
- whipper snippers
- pest identification and associated risks and controls
- the principles of animal welfare and ethics
- safe animal handling techniques and procedures with respect to ‘shifting’ animals if and when required for enclosure maintenance
- workplace hygiene standards, disinfectants, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials and associated workplace health and safety.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately reflects work undertaken in a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - equipment and resources used when working in a captive animal facility
 - personal protective equipment suitable for handling and working with captive animals
 - a range of captive animals
- specifications:
 - the facility’s policies and procedures, including captive animal interaction and emergency procedures.

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.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>