



Australian Government

ACMCAS303 Provide advice on selection and care of aquatic animals

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.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide advice to clients on the appropriate selection of aquatic animals, and on their housing, nutritional and other general care requirements.

This unit is applicable to those working in the companion animal industry sector. It relates to the selection and care of aquatic animals and may include aquariums and pet shops.

This unit applies to individuals who take responsibility for their own work and for the quality of the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Companion Animal Sector (CAS)

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. Provide information and advice on aquatic animal selection	1.1 Use interpersonal skills effectively to engage clients and identify their requirements 1.2 Develop client profiles during communication with clients

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.3 Provide information on the level of care required by varied species of aquatic animals 1.4 Provide advice on the suitability of the selected species to meet client's requirements
2. Advise on housing and environmental requirements	2.1 Discuss appropriate housing and shelter requirements for the selected species 2.2 Identify and recommend water features and landscaping requirements to suit requirements of the species 2.3 Explain set-up and maintenance of housing, and demonstrate if required 2.4 Provide advice on the introduction of species to a new environment
3. Advise on aquatic support systems	3.1 Identify systems and demonstrate to client 3.2 Evaluate systems and make recommendations to client 3.3 Discuss additional equipment and related services, and demonstrate as required 3.4 Arrange transportation of species and equipment, and provide instructions to client
4. Advise on health and nutritional requirements	4.1 Discuss the environmental health requirements of the species with the client 4.2 Provide information on recommended medical treatments for the selected species 4.3 Explain the dietary requirements for the selected species
5. Complete aquatic animal sales transactions	5.1 Complete sales of species and products according to workplace policies and procedures 5.2 Ensure compliance with legislative requirements for the sale or transportation of the selected species 5.3 Maintain records and follow up with client according to workplace policies and procedures

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	Use books, internet or other sources of information to check information about aquatic species and their specific needs
Get the work done	Problem-solve issues in relation to types of equipment to provide client recommendations
Numeracy	Accurately calculate sales figures

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMCAS303 Provide advice on selection and care of aquatic animals	ACMCAS303A Provide advice on selection and care of aquatic animals	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages	Equivalent unit

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 ACMCAS303 Provide advice on selection and care of aquatic animals

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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, on at least five occasions, the individual has:

- communicated effectively with customers, including providing accurate advice about the selection and care of aquatic animals
- maintained high standards of hygiene and infection control at all times to reduce the risk of infection and cross-infection
- maintained accurate records.

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 providing advice on selection and care of aquatic animals
- aquatic species using common names
- basic aquatic animal biology
- common aquatic animal diseases and treatment strategies
- communication procedures and systems, including sales techniques
- feeding techniques for a range of species
- general maintenance and cleaning of animal aquaria
- nutritional requirements for a range of aquatic species
- animal ethics and welfare
- relevant products and additional services
- safe aquatic animal handling techniques
- species compatibility
- standards, guidelines and approaches to environmental sustainability relevant to the animal care industry
- types of disinfectants, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials used in a companion animal enterprise

- industry hygiene standards
- information management systems such as International Species Information System (ISIS) and Zoological Information Management System (ZIMS).

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
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of commonly held aquatic animals
 - equipment and materials commonly used in the care of aquatic animals
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - interactions with real clients/customers or realistic scenarios or roleplays.

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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