



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMCAS403 Design, construct and maintain aquascapes

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 designed, constructed and maintained at least two aquascapes, including:

- used safe and environmentally responsible organisational systems and procedures when working with and handling aquatic animals
- installed, secured and tested lighting, heating and filtration systems
- applied correct cleaning and maintenance techniques
- maintained records and documentation.

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:

- fish, reptile and amphibian common names
- aquaria heating, lighting and filtration systems
- aquaria water chemistry, including water quality adjustment procedures and chemicals used to correct water conditions of aquascapes
- aquatic animal biology related to the care and wellbeing of commonly held species
- disinfectants, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials used in a companion animal workplace
- environmental requirements for commonly held species
- general maintenance and cleaning techniques of aquaria
- ideal water conditions and quality for a range of aquatic animals, including pH, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, salinity, calcium and hardness
- normal and abnormal behaviour of aquatic species, including behaviours and conditions that could be indicative of possible aquatic animal health problems
- plants, features and substrate materials suitable for aquascapes

- animal ethics and welfare
- WHS and animal welfare legislative requirements and codes of practice
- safe aquatic animal handling techniques and procedures
- signs of common aquatic animal diseases and parasitic infestations and their transmission between aquatic animals
- species compatibility
- standards, guidelines and approaches to environmental sustainability relevant to the animal care industry
- waste management strategies
- water sampling, testing and analysis procedures and techniques.

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:
 - live aquatic animals
 - materials, tools and products for designing, constructing and maintaining aquascapes, including lighting, heating and filtration systems.

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>