



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU206 Perform horse riding skills at walk, trot and canter

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 in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual performed horse riding skills at walk, trot and canter, on at least two different horses assessed as suitable for rider skills and experience. The individual must have ridden each horse on at least three different occasions, with and without other horses and riders in the immediate vicinity, during which the individual has:

- discussed with instructor current skill level and suitability of chosen horse prior to riding
- used and correctly fitted personal protective equipment (PPE)
- fitted gear and equipment for nominated horses, including:
 - saddle
 - saddle cloth
 - bridle
 - accessory gear
- mounted horse using a stirrup mount, mounting block, leg-up assisted mount
- controlled horse under saddle at all times in the following tasks:
 - demonstrating an effective riding position at walk, trot (or jog) and canter (or lope) according to chosen discipline
 - using hand, seat and leg aids according to discipline
 - using transitions or increasing and decreasing speed within a gait according to chosen discipline
 - following arena figures of circles, straight and diagonal lines and changes of direction
 - cantering for a continuous distance of a minimum of 200 metres
- dismounted using a stirrup dismount and a vault dismount
- dealt with risks associated with riding horses around others
- accepted and applied feedback from riding instructor
- reported progress and discussed future personal riding skills needs with riding instructor.

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:

- basic process for assessing horse suitability and matching to own skills
- purpose and use of different items of gear, including accessory tack and equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE)
- purpose of appropriate aids to communicate with a horse
- safe group riding techniques
- safe horse handling techniques
- key animal welfare principles and practices for handling horses
- basic work health and safety (WHS) risk assessment and control principles relating to interacting with horses, riding in an arena and with others
- how to address common undesirable horse behaviours including:
 - travelling too fast
 - reefing and pulling
 - jogging sideways
 - running backwards
- risk factors that influence riding horse behaviour, including:
 - other horses
 - vehicles, fences and equipment
 - other people or animals
 - wind, noise and environmental hazards
 - riding with others
- factors that influence horse ability to respond to rider position and application of the natural and artificial aids.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - confined arena in a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various calm, consistent and obedient horses assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - other riders
 - appropriate tack for walk, trot and canter riding activities suitable for horse, rider and discipline
 - correctly fitted PPE for the individual, including riding boots, safety vest and Australian standard or equivalent compliant helmet.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

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

The following specific assessor requirements apply to this unit. The assessor must:

- hold a current, recognised qualification for instructing or coaching horse riding and handling skills (refer to *User Guide* for details), and
- have three years of experience organising groups and responding to different types of riders and horses in order to prevent incidents that could lead to injury of rider or horse.

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

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