



Australian Government

ACMEQU213 Follow safe work practices in equine industries

Release: 1

ACMEQU213 Follow safe work practices in equine industries

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to follow workplace health and safety policies and procedures in industries that use horses.

This unit applies to workers who handle horses and who undertake routine work under supervision. They apply documented policies, procedures and practices to reduce health and safety risks in their own work, and support the health and safety of the team members and horses. Work environments may include stables, paddocks, yards, tracks, exercise arenas and public areas.

Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication, except for the racing industry, where licensing or registration varies between states and territories. Users working in the racing industry are advised to contact the relevant Principal Racing Authority for advice on current requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely

Unit Sector

Equine (EQU)

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. Confirm workplace health and safety	1.1 Confirm key workplace health and safety roles and responsibilities

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
requirements	in the workplace 1.2 Interpret and confirm key workplace health and safety policies and procedures, and responsibilities for own role 1.3 Confirm key common hazards and risks related to routine horse work, including zoonotic diseases 1.4 Identify and interpret risk control procedures and practices established by the workplace to control or minimise key common risks for horse workers
2. Prepare to work safely	2.1 Confirm work task, environmental conditions, resources, timeframes and team members and horses involved and affected according to workplace requirements 2.2 Identify hazards, assess risks and control and/or report risks prior to commencing task 2.3 Communicate with supervisor and other team members about risk control measures and backup safety plans, and confirm actions and responsibilities 2.4 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for task 2.5 Select, check and fit horse gear required to handle horse to ensure safety of horse, self and others 2.6 Select tools, equipment, and materials required for task, and undertake pre-start operational and safety checks according to manufacturer instructions
3. Complete work task safely	3.1 Confirm all health and safety risk control measures have been taken in readiness to commence the task 3.2 Undertake task using safe horse handling, materials handling and infection control practices according to workplace requirements 3.3 Maintain situational awareness and adapt own behaviour and activities to changes in work environment 3.4 Monitor hazards and risks that arise during the task, and implement backup safety plan if required, to minimise risks to horse, self and others 3.5 Respond to unforeseen risks and/or seek assistance from others if required 3.6 Report effectiveness of risk controls according to workplace

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	requirements 3.7 Clean and tidy work area, and report new hazards according to health and safety requirements 3.8 Check, clean and store equipment, and report equipment that needs repair or replacement 3.9 Document incidents, accidents or near misses as required according to workplace health and safety and animal welfare requirements
4. Implement worker and horse emergency response procedures	4.1 Confirm existing workplace emergency response procedures and requirements 4.2 Confirm likely emergency situation or event with supervisor and agree plan of action for areas of own responsibility 4.3 Follow workplace plan and procedures for responding to emergencies 4.4 Report outcomes of emergency response action, and suggest areas for improvement
5. Participate in ongoing work health and safety activities	5.1 Contribute to workplace meetings, inspections and other workplace health and safety consultative activities 5.2 Identify existing and potential health and safety hazards, and report them according to workplace procedures 5.3 Participate in actions to minimise or eliminate health and safety risks in the workplace according to level of own responsibility

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	Interpret safety information provided on product labels and manufacturer instructions
Writing	Complete safety records using industry terminology

Skill	Description
Numeracy	Estimate and calculate quantity, area, weight, volume, temperature, time and ratio
Oral communication	- Use active listening and questioning to clarify and confirm supervisor instructions - Use industry terminology accurately in communications with others

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU213 Follow safe work practices in equine industries	ACMEQU201 Work safely in industries with horses	Unit redesigned to include general workplace health and safety roles and responsibilities, emergency response and participative processes Prerequisite requirements changed Major changes to all sections of the unit	Not equivalent

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 ACMEQU213 Follow safe work practices in equine industries

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence the individual has followed workplace instructions to safely carry out a minimum of three different work tasks that involve horse handling. The tasks are to be performed using at least two different quiet, consistent and obedient horses. For each task, the individual must have:

- confirmed with supervisor horse identification and horse suitability for the task
- identified and confirmed at least three hazards, and assessed, controlled and/or reported their risk
- confirmed and followed risk control procedures, including safe positioning and movement around horse and others
- provided feedback to supervisor on the effectiveness of risk controls
- checked and correctly fitted appropriate horse gear and personal protective equipment (PPE)
- responded appropriately to reactive horse behaviour prior to and during the task
- used safe and low stress horse handling practices
- used safe manual and materials handling practices.

In addition to the above, the individual must have:

- implemented at least one backup plan to reduce safety risks to self and horse caused by an unforeseen event
- followed workplace procedures in response to an emergency for fire and one of the following scenarios:
 - uncontrolled fire or flood
 - unexpected extreme weather change or event
 - medical emergency requiring human and/or horse first aid
 - outbreak of zoonotic disease
 - a cast horse
- accurately completed workplace documentation for:

- hazard identification and risk assessment
- reporting an incident or accident or emergency response action
- participated constructively in a minimum of two organised ongoing workplace health and safety activities.

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 horse behaviours, including fight and flight responses, body language, herd and adverse behaviours
- fundamental workplace health and safety responsibilities of employees, supervisors and managers in an equine workplace
- role of workplace health and safety representatives and health and safety committees
- responsibility for reporting and controlling health and safety risks for own job role
- methods to evaluate the effectiveness of risk control measures
- equine workplace emergency policies and/or procedures for responding to:
 - uncontrolled loose horse
 - cast horse
 - uncontrolled fire, including fire affecting horse facilities and bush fires
 - uncontrolled flood
 - outbreak of endemic and zoonotic disease
 - unexpected change in weather
 - medical emergencies that require human and horse first aid response
 - hazardous substance and chemical spills
 - events requiring evacuation
- common hazards and/or risks that occur in an equine environment, including:
 - horse bites, kicks, strike and crushing
 - zoonoses, including Hendra and ringworm
 - hazardous chemicals, medications and substances
 - sharps
 - manual and material handling tasks
 - disturbances, noise and other animals that startle horses
 - machinery and equipment
 - extreme temperatures
 - slips, trips and falls
 - dust
- common controls to eliminate or minimise risks in an equine workplace, including:
 - current assessment of horse suitability
 - use of safe and low stress horse handling practices
 - movement within horse safety zones, including standing and recumbent horses

- horse restraints, including horse gear and crush
- fences and other barriers
- safety signs
- PPE
- personal immunisation against infectious diseases
- personal hygiene
- cleaning and sanitising of work areas
- purpose, use, maintenance and storage of PPE, including:
 - clothing and footwear
 - face and eye protection
 - hand protection
 - head protection
 - hearing protection
 - respiratory protection
- common safety and traffic control signs found in an equine workplace
- personal stress and fatigue, and potential to affect safe work
- purpose and storage of safety data sheets
- purpose and procedures for inspection, tag-out and lock-out of gear, equipment and machinery
- manual and materials handling solutions for common activities in the horse industry
- pre-operational work checks, including horse behaviour in readiness for work tasks.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live horses educated for the tasks specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the assessment of this unit and the individual being assessed
 - tools and equipment required for the tasks specified in the performance evidence, including correctly fitted and adjusted gear for the horses and PPE for the handler
 - the emergency scenarios in the performance evidence may be simulated
- specifications:
 - equine workplace health and safety policies and procedures
 - equine workplace emergency response procedures for fire and one of the emergency scenarios selected in the performance evidence
 - workplace procedures and/or instructions related to the work tasks specified in the performance evidence

- relationships:
 - supervisor and team members.

The *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training* provides advice and sample templates to assist assessors with the risk assessments that should be undertaken to help ensure the safety of all involved in the assessment.

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>