



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU410 Educate pack horses

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 3.0.

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:

- completed a risk assessment of each horse* to be educated
- prepared suitable facilities and environments for each horse's education program and stage
- educated three horses to carry loads over different terrains whilst being led on foot and from another horse
- educated one horse to be restrained
- demonstrated safe horse handling and riding skills and appropriate education techniques to ensure their own and others' safety and the wellbeing of the horse at all times.

*Note: Assessment may be undertaken with a horse or other domestic equid such as a donkey or mule.

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:

- safe work practices when interacting with horses, including:
 - assessing and controlling risks
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - safe zones around horses
 - duty of care for others
 - use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for activity
- horse wellbeing, including:
 - managing stress, fatigue, heat and injuries
 - overview of animal welfare assessment frameworks, including Five Domains and Five Freedoms models
- equine behaviour, including:

- body language and vocalisations
- temperament and characteristics of different breeds and classes of horses
- affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue
- behaviours and conditions typically linked to strong fight or flight response
- high-risk behaviours to people, including biting, kicking, striking, bucking and rearing
- indicators of horse health status, including body, condition, feet, teeth, injuries and stage of development
- key features of current research on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning abilities relevant to training horses
- techniques to shape or modify horse behaviour
- horse characteristics suited to carrying loads and walking trails
- facilities and environments for educating pack horses, including:
 - controlled areas – arenas, fenced tracks
 - open areas – range of terrains and obstacles
- tack and equipment, including:
 - purpose of items
 - correct fit
 - how to check condition and working order
- camp or overnight routines and environments for pack horses
- criteria for matching the pack horse with lead horse, including temperament, size, speed and stamina
- features to include in an education plan, including objectives, stages and timeframes
- range of purposes for pack horses, including recreation, tourism and farm/agricultural work
- strategies to assess ability level of others, and their experience in handling recently educated ('green') horses.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions, including controlled and open areas
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a variety of horses – appropriately educated in initial handling skills for the purpose of the education activities in the performance evidence
 - PPE correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual
 - appropriate tack and gear required for education program
- relationships:
 - assistant handler, if required.

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.

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>