



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU505 Manage fitness in 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 5.0.

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:

- developed and adapted individual conditioning programs for at least two horses with different fitness and exercise goals and requirements
- managed the program for each horse, including:
 - measured, recorded and evaluated data, vital signs and other indicators of health and welfare
 - monitored and managed diet and nutrition components of the program
 - monitored and managed fatigue, injuries and thermoregulation efficiency
 - planned and managed spelling and rest periods.

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:

- key features of anatomy and physiology of horse body systems, including:
 - respiratory
 - cardiovascular
 - musculoskeletal
 - digestive
- key features of exercise physiology, including adaptations of horse body systems to exercise, including:
 - horse body condition scoring systems
 - basic principles of chemistry relating to exercise and performance fitness
 - basic principles of biology relating to exercise and performance fitness
 - normal and abnormal blood test parameters relevant to exercise

- features of thermoregulation
- key features of a conditioning or fitness program, including:
 - information about individual horse
 - program goals (short and longer term) and expected outcomes
 - strategies or methodologies, including contingency strategies
 - schedule, milestones, benchmarks
- equipment relevant for implementing a conditioning program, including:
 - horse gear and protective equipment
 - heart rate monitors
 - electronic tracking and recording devices, including GPS, video and camera functionality
 - exercise equipment, including treadmills, video analysis
- horse conditioning techniques and methods
- common horse health problems and injuries related to exercise
- risk factors for the development of exercise-related injuries and disease
- feed, supplements and nutraceuticals relevant to maintaining health and welfare of exercising horses
- key requirements of work, health and safety regulations and guidelines relating to:
 - risk assessment, control and review
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - personal protective equipment (PPE)
- key requirements of animal welfare standards, policies and procedures relevant to the safe, humane and ethical care of horses, including an overview of the concept of social licence to operate.

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:
 - various live horses as specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - appropriate gear for horse and conditioning activities
 - PPE correctly fitted and applicable to activity for handler
 - health and exercise monitoring and measuring equipment
- specifications:
 - relevant workplace policies and procedures, and animal welfare legislation and codes of practice.

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>