



Australian Government

ACMGAS206 Provide basic first aid for animals

Release: 1

ACMGAS206 Provide basic first aid for animals

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide essential first aid for animals by recognising and responding to an emergency using basic first aid measures. The first aider is not expected to deal with complex casualties or incidents, but to provide an initial response where first aid is required.

This unit is applicable to new entrants to the animal care and management industry. Animal care may occur in a wide variety of workplaces, including retail pet stores, kennels and catteries, shelters, veterinary practices, zoos, animal research facilities and others.

This unit applies to individuals who work under general supervision and exercise limited autonomy. They undertake defined activities and work in a structured context.

No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication.

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

General Animal Studies (GAS)

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>

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1. Assess the situation	1.1 Recognise emergency situation 1.2 Identify physical hazards to self, bystanders, the public and the animal 1.3 Take action to minimise the immediate risk to self, bystanders, the public and the animal 1.4 Use personal protective equipment and safe working practices according to WHS at all times when handling animals 1.5 Assess physical condition and vital signs of the animal
2. Provide basic first aid to animals	2.1 Reassure animal and make comfortable using available resources 2.2 Handle animal safely and humanely to minimise pain and further injuries 2.3 Provide basic first aid care 2.4 Seek first aid assistance from others as appropriate and required 2.5 Record treatment and any additional information on the animal

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
Oral communication	Warn bystanders of risks in an appropriate manner
Get the work done	- Maintain the high standards of hygiene to reduce risk of infection and cross-infection - Problem-solve issues with first aid calmly and as they occur

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS206 Provide basic first aid for animals	ACMGAS206A Provide basic first aid for animals	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages	Equivalent unit

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 ACMGAS206 Provide basic first aid for animals

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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:

- provided basic first aid for at least two animals, in a simulated environment, covering different types of emergencies
- identified hazards and minimised the risk to self, bystanders, the public and the animal.

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 first aid techniques including how to:
 - stop bleeding
 - administer oxygen
 - minimise impact of shock by keeping animal quiet, warm and away from activity or noise
 - immobilise limb injuries, if soft tissue damage or fractures are suspected
 - hose or apply water, if available, in cases of burns or heat exhaustion
 - administer emetics or antidotes under instruction if appropriate
 - feed or water as advised
 - transport animal to veterinary assistance as soon as possible
- basic examination techniques to determine health status
- how to assess physical conditions, including:
 - broken bones
 - burns
 - lacerations
 - other injuries, trauma and medical conditions

- scratches
- vital signs of animals, including:
 - hydration status
 - pulse rates
 - respiration
 - temperature
- risks of providing first aid to animals, including:
 - risks to self, bystanders and public
 - risks to animals
- first aid casualty management principles
- first aid sources for assistance
- safe animal handling techniques and procedures
- WHS and animal welfare legislative requirements and codes of practice
- the animal emergency network.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an environment that accurately reflects a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of animals or models
 - emergency scenarios
 - equipment and resources appropriate to work undertaken in an animal care environment, including personal protective equipment
- specifications:
 - access to organisational policies and procedures
 - current WHS and animal welfare legislation and regulations
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - interactions with bystanders.

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

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