



Australian Government

ACMGAS306 Assist with conditioning animals

Release: 1

ACMGAS306 Assist with conditioning 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 condition animals in order to modify their behaviour through assisting with formulating and demonstrating a conditioning plan, based on operant conditioning techniques.

This unit applies to individuals working as animal keepers and carers, who are expected to perform tasks under supervision. These individuals work under broad supervision and use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources. Work routines must meet organisational and compliance requirements for ethical handling and welfare of animals, work health and safety, and biosecurity appropriate to the work role.

No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements 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>
1. Develop a	1.1 Identify a range of desirable and undesirable behaviours for

Elements	Performance Criteria
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conditioning plan	specific animals 1.2 Identify the trainable behaviour in consultation with supervisor 1.3 Identify appropriate positive reinforcement to be used 1.4 Identify conditioned reinforcer in consultation with supervisor 1.5 Compile the conditioning plan in consultation with the supervisor and according to WHS, animal welfare and organisation policies and procedures
2. Condition a behaviour	2.1 Establish a conditioned reinforcer with the animal under supervision 2.2 Demonstrate approximations under supervision, to condition an animal 2.3 Show that behaviour when demonstrated under stimulus control meets animal welfare and ethics requirements 2.4 Maintain record of behaviour being conditioned according to organisation policies and procedures
3. Monitor and review a conditioning plan	3.1 Review the short-term and long-term objectives of the conditioning plan regularly in consultation with the supervisor and other relevant personnel 3.2 Update the conditioning plan regularly according to organisation policies and procedures

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	- Research the behaviours of different animals and species - Research training techniques for different animals and species
Get the work done	Undertake problem solving techniques to determine the animals condition to assist in the formulation of the conditioning plan

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS306 Assist with conditioning animals	ACMGAS306A Assist with conditioning animals	Updated to meet Standard 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 ACMGAS306 Assist with conditioning 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 assisted with conditioning at least one animal each of at least two different breeds or species, including:

- formulated a conditioning plan, in consultation with others, that complies with WHS and animal welfare requirements
- applied principles of learning in relation to conditioning techniques
- applied positive reinforcement methods and used appropriate techniques and tools to condition behaviour
- maintained accurate records of behaviour being conditioned.

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:

- normal and abnormal animal behaviour and behaviour patterns
- techniques and tools used to condition behaviour
- the principles of and reasons for animal learning and operant conditioning techniques
- the principles of animal welfare and ethics
- organisation policies and procedures, including WHS and emergency procedures, hygiene standards and other industry guidelines.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:

- live animals
- rewards for reinforcing desirable behaviours in the animals
- personal and protective equipment.

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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