



**Australian Government**

# **ACMGEN306 Provide advice on aquatic animal selection and general care**

**Release: 1**

# ACMGEN306 Provide advice on aquatic animal selection and general care

## Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0. |

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide advice to clients on the appropriate selection of aquatic animals, and on their housing, nutritional and other general care requirements. It also includes the sale of aquatic animals, products and services. Aquatic animals may include fish, aquatic invertebrates (including crustaceans and corals), amphibians and turtles.

This unit applies to individuals who provide information and advice on aquatic animals and aquariums in pet shops and specialist facilities. They perform work under broad direction and are required to take responsibility for their own work, including carrying out assigned tasks, organising processes, solving routine problems and working to schedules.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

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

## Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

## Unit Sector

General Animal Care (GEN)

## 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> |

| <b>Elements</b>                                               | <b>Performance Criteria</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>              | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1. Provide information and advice on aquatic animal selection | 1.1 Use interpersonal skills effectively to engage clients and identify their requirements<br>1.2 Provide information on level of care required by varied species of aquatic animals<br>1.3 Provide advice on suitability of the selected species to meet client's requirements                                                                               |
| 2. Advise on housing and environmental requirements           | 2.1 Discuss appropriate housing and shelter requirements for selected species<br>2.2 Identify and recommend water features and landscaping requirements to suit requirements of species<br>2.3 Explain set-up and maintenance of housing, and demonstrate according to requirements<br>2.4 Provide advice on the introduction of species to a new environment |
| 3. Advise on aquatic support systems                          | 3.1 Identify systems and demonstrate to client<br>3.2 Evaluate systems and make recommendations to client<br>3.3 Discuss additional equipment and related services, and demonstrate as required<br>3.4 Provide advice and instructions to client on safe, low stress transportation of species and equipment                                                  |
| 4. Advise on health, nutritional and welfare requirements     | 4.1 Discuss the environmental health requirements of the species with the client<br>4.2 Provide information on recommended preventative treatments for the selected species<br>4.3 Explain the dietary requirements for the selected species<br>4.4 Discuss the animal's social and enrichment needs, considering those that impact on behaviour and welfare  |
| 5. Complete aquatic animal sales transactions                 | 5.1 Complete sales of animal, services and/or products according to workplace policies and procedures<br>5.2 Confirm compliance with legislative requirements for the sale or transportation of the selected species<br>5.3 Maintain records and follow up with client according to workplace 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            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interpret accurately industry terminology about aquatic species and nutritional needs from valid sources</li><li>Accurately interpret product information and instructions on animal products and animal care equipment</li></ul> |
| Oral communication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Use open-ended questioning, active listening, and paraphrasing and summarising to gather information and determine client requirements</li></ul>                                                                                  |
| Numeracy           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Calculate volume, weight, area, percentage, ratio, time and application rates</li><li>Accurately calculate quantities, prices and sales related data</li></ul>                                                                    |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version                                           | Code and title previous version                                      | Comments                                                                                                                  | Equivalence status |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ACMGEN306<br>Provide advice on aquatic animal selection and general care | ACMCAS303<br>Provide advice on selection and care of aquatic animals | Title changed<br><br>Minor changes to element and performance criteria for clarity<br><br>Assessment requirements updated | 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 ACMGEN306 Provide advice on aquatic animal selection and general care

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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 advice about the selection and care of aquatic animal species to at least five different clients
- provided care advice for three different aquatic animal species, including transportation, nutrition, housing, welfare and social requirements
- completed at least three transactions of services, products or aquatic animals, and maintained accurate workplace records for each.

## 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:

- aquatic species commonly held or relevant to sector, including common names, key features and behavioural characteristics
- types of aquatic animals, including:
  - fish
  - aquatic invertebrates (including crustaceans and corals)
  - amphibians
  - turtles
- relevant commonly held products and additional services provided
- relevant legislation relating to the sale, transportation and ownership of aquatic animals
- basic aquatic animal biology
- general husbandry and care requirements of commonly selected aquatic animal species, including:
  - nutritional requirements
  - feeding techniques for a range of species

- housing requirements and general maintenance and cleaning of aquaria
- welfare, enrichment and social needs
- safe and low stress aquatic animal handling techniques
- health requirements, including preventative care
- common diseases and treatment strategies
- species compatibility
- principles of animal ethics and welfare as they apply to aquatic animals
- workplace communication procedures and systems, including sales techniques
- workplace health and safety requirements, including hygiene standards and environmental sustainability relevant to the aquatic animal care
- key requirements of Commonwealth and relevant state/territory legislation, licensing and codes of practice related to aquatic animal species, biosecurity, health and safety, and animal welfare.

## Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
  - an aquatic animal retail or service workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - equipment and materials commonly used in the care of aquatic animals
- relationships:
  - clients.

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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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>