



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMPHR401 Interpret equine behaviour

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 3.0.
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

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:

- researched and collated a portfolio of information on the key features of equine ethology, behaviour and welfare relevant to work operations
- accurately interpreted equine behaviour, including body language, vocalisation, locomotory behaviour and interactions with other horses, on at least five occasions
- investigated approaches used at three horse facilities, including management routines used for similar purposes, to identify good practices and/or recommend changes to improve the wellbeing and behaviour of horses in each facility
- communicated information about the individual behaviour and welfare of two horses to workers and/or clients relevant to work operations.

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:

- behavioural needs and patterns of domestic horses, including:
 - handled and unhandled horses
 - herd behaviour
 - individual stabled or yarded horses
- equine behaviour, including:
 - body language and vocalisations
 - evolutionary basis of horse behaviour and its impact on the behavioural needs of horses

- affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue
- behaviours and conditions typically linked to strong fight or flight response
- high-risk behaviours (biting, kicking, panicking, extreme flight response)
- key features of current research in equine cognition, ethology, behaviour and learning
- key animal welfare frameworks and application to horses, including, Five Freedoms, Five Domains Model, quality of life indicators
- the application of research to the management, handling, housing and education of horses
- identification of situations requiring specialist advice on equine behaviour
- the effect of the environment, housing, handling, education and management decisions on the behaviour and welfare of horses
- regulatory requirements and organisational policies and procedures relevant to equine behaviour, including:
 - work health and safety
 - animal welfare
 - local government regulations.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - access to live horses and video scenarios to observe behaviour
 - technology to access information, and/or sources of current information on equine behaviour and welfare.

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>