



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

ACMACR402A Assess and impound animals

Revision Number: 1

ACMACR402A Assess and impound animals

Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor	This unit of competency covers the process of seizing, handling and transporting animals in routine situations according to relevant legislation and organisational policies and procedures in an animal control and regulation environment. No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.
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Application of the Unit

Application of the unit	This unit is applicable to those working in animal control and regulation industry sectors where it is necessary to impound animals. In addition to legal and ethical responsibilities, all units of competency in the ACM10 Animal Care and Management Training Package have the requirement for animals to be handled gently and calmly. The individual is required to exhibit appropriate care for animals so that stress and discomfort is minimised. <i>Note: This unit does not involve the use of firearms, chemical or drugs in the process of seizing an animal.</i>
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Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite units		

Employability Skills Information

Employability skills	This unit contains employability skills.
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Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.
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Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Assess the situation	1.1. Situation is assessed to determine risk to self, bystanders, the public and target animal. 1.2. Safety of self, bystanders, the public and target animal is always maintained. 1.3. Organisational policies and procedures and legislative requirements are followed at all times.
2. Seize animal	2.1. Appropriate equipment for seizure is selected. 2.2. Action is taken to reduce risk/hazard in seizing the animal. 2.3. Animal is seized using correct and humane animal handling techniques. 2.4. Safe work practices and occupational health and safety (OHS) requirements are followed in seizing animal. 2.5. Animal is assessed for injuries and health issues and basic first aid is applied to animal and/or self as required. 2.6. Organisational policies and procedures and legislative requirements are followed.
3. Transport animal	3.1. Mode of transport is selected and prepared, and destination is determined appropriate to animal's requirements. 3.2. Restraints are prepared and maintained. 3.3. Animal is loaded and restrained humanely in accordance with organisational policies and procedures and legislative requirements. 3.4. Animal is transported to destination. 3.5. Animal is removed from transport restraints and unloaded safely and correctly at destination. 3.6. Animal is housed and fed at destination as required by legislative requirements. 3.7. Safe work practices and OHS requirements are followed in restraining and transporting animal. 3.8. Organisational policies and procedures and legislative requirements are followed. 3.9. Appropriate records are kept and entered into relevant management systems as required.

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- apply basic first aid
- apply safe work practices on a daily basis
- assess a situation and determine an appropriate plan for the seizure and transport of animals
- employ safe, humane and environmentally responsible organisational systems and procedures when working with and handling animals, including loading and unloading animals for transportation
- maintain the highest standards of hygiene and infection control at all times to reduce the risk of infection and cross-infection
- read and interpret relevant legislation
- use animal seizure and restraint techniques
- literacy skills to read and follow organisational policies and procedures, including OHS, infection control and waste management; follow sequenced written instructions; record accurately and legibly information collected; and select and apply procedures to a range of defined tasks
- oral communication skills/language to fulfil the job role as specified by the organisation, including questioning techniques, active listening, asking for clarification from third party and reporting to supervisor
- numeracy skills to estimate, calculate and record routine workplace measures
- risk management skills, including identifying risks, consulting with stakeholders, modifying and reviewing processes and documenting changes
- interpersonal skills to communicate, relate, negotiate and mediate with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders from a range of social and cultural backgrounds
- problem-solving skills to use available resources and prioritise daily tasks
- use safe manual handling techniques and/or equipment
- use safe waste handling and disposal procedures.

Required knowledge

- animal behaviour, temperament and body language
- animal's interpretation of human body language when it is being approached
- awareness of diseases and zoonoses
- basic first aid methods and techniques
- equipment, methods and strategies for seizing, restraining and transporting animals safely and humanely
- OHS hazards
- organisational policies and procedures

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- principles of animal welfare and ethics
- recognition of animal stress and comfort
- relevant legislation and codes of practice relating to the seizure, restraint and transportation of animals.

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

The Evidence Guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Overview of assessment

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

The evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations and satisfy all of the requirements of the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge and the range statement of this unit. Assessors should ensure that candidates can:

- assess a situation to determine an appropriate plan for seizure and transport of animals
- minimise risks to animals, self, bystanders and the public
- handle and restrain animals in a safe and humane manner
- seize animals using equipment appropriate to the animal and the task
- assess animals for injury and/or health issues
- apply basic first aid as required
- load, transport and unload animals using safe work practices
- access and use management systems to keep and maintain accurate records.

The skills and knowledge required to assess and impound animals must be transferable to a range of work environments and contexts and include the ability to deal with unplanned events.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment of this unit is to be practical in nature and will be most appropriately assessed in an animal control and regulation workplace or in a situation that reproduces normal work conditions.

There must be access to the appropriate equipment and/or resources to enable one to demonstrate competence.

Method of assessment

To ensure consistency in one's performance, competency

EVIDENCE GUIDE	
	should be demonstrated, to industry defined standards, on more than one occasion over a period of time in order to cover a variety of circumstances, cases and responsibilities and over a number of assessment activities. The assessment strategy must include practical skills assessment. Suggested strategies for this unit are: • written and/or oral assessment of candidate's required knowledge • observed, documented and first-hand testimonial evidence of candidate's application of practical tasks • simulation exercises that reproduce normal work conditions • case study analysis • third-party evidence • workplace documentation • portfolio. This unit may be assessed in a holistic way with other units of competency relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role.
Guidance information for assessment	Assessment methods should reflect workplace demands (e.g. literacy and numeracy demands) and the needs of particular target groups (e.g. people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, women, people with a language background other than English, youth and people from low socioeconomic backgrounds).

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

<i>Assessing the situation</i> may include:	• the consideration of: • members of the public and their safety • safety of self and team members • safety and welfare of the animal to be seized • environment: • open space • public facility • residential property • roads • circumstances: • an aggressive animal • crowded place • time of day • provision for backup if required • type, size and number of animals to be seized • health and wellbeing of animals to be seized • making a decision, in consultation with supervisor, veterinarian or others, as to whether the animal should be destroyed during the seizure process.
The purpose of <i>seizing an animal</i> may include:	• an animal may be seized: • to ensure safety to the community or to the animal itself (e.g. due to an animal's aggressive behaviour) • for legislative reasons: • animal wandering at large • attacks • breach of seizure orders.
<i>Equipment</i> may include:	• bribes (e.g. food) • bridles and headstalls • catch poles

RANGE STATEMENT	
	• cages • collars and leads • halters and harnesses • nets • ropes • shackles • snake bags • protective clothing including gloves • traps. Firearms, chemicals or drugs should not be used as part of this unit of competency.
Safe work practices may include:	• use of personal protective clothing and equipment appropriate to the type of animal • protocols: • animal hazard management and identification • animal handling (e.g. lifting and securing) • seizure and transportation.
OHS risks when working with animals may include:	• animal bites, envenomation, kicks, scratches and crush injuries • biological hazardous waste • inhalation of aerosol particles • intraocular contamination • manual handling, including carrying, lifting and shifting • moving parts of machinery or equipment • release of infective agents (animal and human) • slippery or uneven work surfaces • zoonoses.
Possible destinations may include:	• pounds • return to owner • shelters • RSPCA • veterinary clinic for veterinary care and assistance • wildlife carer.
Types of restraints do not include:	• firearms, chemicals or drugs as part of this unit of competency.

Unit Sector(s)

Unit sector	Animal control and regulation
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Competency field

Competency field	
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Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units		