



Australian Government

AHCLSK324 Care for and train working dogs

Release: 1

AHCLSK324 Care for and train working dogs

Modification History

Release Number	TP Version	Comments
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to select, train and care for working dogs in the rural industry.

This unit applies to farm workers who use dogs to handle livestock.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, work health and safety, animal welfare and biosecurity legislation and codes of practice and sustainability practices.

This unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work. They complete routine activities and work in a range of known contexts.

All units of competency dealing with animals in the AHC Training Package have the requirements for animals to be handled humanely to minimise stress and discomfort.

No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication. Individuals must be aware of state/territory regulations and licensing requirements for keeping working dogs.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil.

Unit Sector

Livestock (LSK)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Identify workplace requirement and select working dog	1.1 Identify and confirm working dog requirements for the workplace 1.2 Research suitable working dog breeds and determine availability 1.3 Inspect dogs for suitability and make selection according to

Element	Performance criteria
	workplace criteria
2. Develop and implement training program for working dog	2.1 Teach commands for working tasks 2.2 Introduce the dog to a small flock in a confined area 2.3 Train the dog to handle larger numbers in more open areas 2.4 Train the dog on specialist skills such as backing and forcing 2.5 Assess existing and potential hazards associated with handling livestock in the workplace and implement measures to control risks 2.6 Comply with animal welfare codes of practice
3. Maintain health and welfare of working dog	3.1 Monitor and maintain health and condition of the working dogs 3.2 Provide an adequate and balanced diet to meet nutritional requirements of the working dogs taking into account work load/training program 3.3 Seek veterinary advice and arrange for or administer preventative health treatments 3.4 Provide and maintain appropriate housing facilities and equipment in line with animal welfare requirements

Foundation Skills

Foundation Skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

Unit Mapping Information

This unit is equivalent to AHCLSK324A Care for and train working dogs

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCLSK324 Care for and train working dogs

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must be assessed on their ability to integrate and apply the performance requirements of this unit in a workplace setting. Performance must be demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

The candidate must provide evidence that they can:

- identify the workplace need for working dogs
- select working dog to meet workplace requirements
- develop working dog training programs and apply effective training methods
- maintain health and welfare of the working dog
- follow relevant work health and safety and animal welfare practices

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- working dog breeds and behaviour
- use of working dogs in the workplace
- effective working dog training systems and procedures
- livestock handling methods and techniques
- care, husbandry and management procedures for working dogs
- signs of health, anatomy and physiology of working dogs
- common illnesses of working dogs and preventative health strategies
- relevant State/Territory legislative and regulatory requirements with regard to work health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and the registration and care of domestic dogs

Assessment Conditions

Competency is to be assessed in the workplace OR workplace and a simulated environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting.

Assessments for the following performance evidence must be conducted on live animals:

- develop and implement training program for working dog

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs.

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