



Australian Government

AHCLSK363 Care for and train working dogs

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Release 11.0.

Application

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

The unit applies to individuals who care for and train working dogs under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work.

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

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

In addition to legal responsibilities, all units of competency dealing with animals in the AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package have the requirements for animals to be handled humanely to minimise stress and discomfort.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Livestock (LSK)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

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1. Identify workplace requirements 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 workplace criteria
2. Develop and implement training program for working dog	2.1 Identify hazards and risks and implement safe working practices to manage risks 2.2 Teach commands for working tasks 2.3 Introduce the dog to a small flock or herd in a confined area 2.4 Train the dog to handle larger numbers of livestock in open areas 2.5 Train the dog on specialist skills such as backing and forcing 2.6 Safely handle working dog, and handle livestock using good stock handling techniques and according to animal welfare practices
3. Maintain health and welfare of working dog	3.1 Monitor and maintain health and condition of the working dog 3.2 Provide an adequate and balanced diet to meet nutritional requirements of the working dog according to workload and training program 3.3 Seek veterinary advice and arrange for or administer preventative health treatments 3.4 Provide and maintain housing facilities and equipment according to workplace animal welfare practices and requirements

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	Identify and interpret workplace documentation to identify relevant and key information about working dog breeds and workplace requirements
Oral communication	Respond to questions and clarify information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current release	Code and title previous release	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK363 Care for and train working dogs	AHCLSK324 Care for and train working dogs	Minor changes to application Minor changes to elements and performance criteria Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	Equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCLSK363 Care for and train working dogs

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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 cared for and trained working dogs to handle livestock on at least one occasion, and has:

- applied relevant workplace health and safety legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- applied relevant animal welfare practices
- identified the workplace need for working dogs
- selected working dogs to meet workplace requirements
- developed working dog training programs and applied effective training methods
- maintained the health and welfare of the working dog
- safely handled working dog
- handled livestock using good stock handling techniques.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for caring for and training working dogs to handle livestock
- principles and practices for caring for and training working dogs to handle livestock, including:
 - working dog breeds and behaviour
 - use of working dogs in the workplace
 - managing the workload of working dogs
 - effective working dog training systems and procedures
 - good stock handling 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
- animal welfare practices
- registration and care of domestic dogs.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - work instructions and workplace procedures applicable to caring for and training working dogs to handle livestock
 - research material applicable to selecting working dogs breeds for specific work requirements
 - livestock suitable for training working dogs
 - working dogs suitable for training on livestock
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for caring for and training working dogs to handle livestock
 - legislation, regulations, standards, guidelines and procedures for animal welfare applicable to caring for and training working dogs to handle livestock
- relationships:
 - veterinarian
- time frames:
 - according to job requirements.

Assessment of this unit must be conducted on live animals.

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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