



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for SISO EQU015 Acquire and educate horses for sport or recreational programs

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:

- research the purchase of two different horses to meet the requirements of a sport or recreational program
- for at least one of the horses sourced, complete the following pre-purchase assessments:
 - history of horse use
 - current level of education
 - current health status
 - behaviour and temperament, via seller reports and testing
- assess the education needs of two individual horses, according to their sport or recreational role and environment
- develop individual education programs for those two horses
- educate the two horses to:
 - meet program specific behavioural requirements
 - program activities, exercises or disciplines
- during all activities, consistently use safe horse handling or riding practices and techniques
- complete the following documents for each of the two horses:
 - education program
 - horse progress and ongoing behavioural issues
 - educational outcomes.

Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:

- organisational policies and procedures for acquiring and education horses including those for safety and emergency response
- factors that affect the suitability and selection of horses for sport and recreational use:
 - purchase prices and ongoing maintenance costs
 - size
 - age and gender

- health
- functional conformation
- sport or recreational program experience and history
- previous education
- tractability
- vices
- temperament
- methods for obtaining health checks
- pre-purchase testing techniques used to assess suitability of horses
- factors that affect the education of horses for sport and recreational use:
 - range of activities offered by the organisation
 - environments where activities are completed
 - types of terrain and obstacles covered by programs
 - characteristics of client profile including age and horse handling or riding skill level
 - tack and equipment used for different programs
- unwanted and unsafe behaviour of horses used for sport and recreational activities to include:
 - bolting
 - biting
 - rearing
 - bucking
 - kicking
 - shying
 - propensity to fight
- animal welfare based behaviour modification techniques for unwanted and unsafe behaviour of horses
- current scientific research findings on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning ability and recommended education techniques
- techniques used to educate horses for program specific activities, exercises or disciplines
- format and contents of documents which record:
 - purchase arrangements
 - education programs
 - horse progress and ongoing behavioural issues
 - education outcomes.

Assessment Conditions

Skills can be demonstrated in any indoor or outdoor environment where horses are tested and educated for sport or recreational purposes.

Horse matching prior to all assessments involving horse interaction is essential. Assessors must:

- complete, participate in or validate a risk assessment of the candidate's characteristics and level of horse handling or riding skills
- match, or validate the matching of, horses of suitable history, size and temperament to the candidate to ensure that handler or rider and horse combination is safe.

Assessment must ensure use of:

- horses matched to the candidate as above; these can be:
 - calm, consistent and obedient horses; or
 - compliant and manageable horses
- tack to include:
 - halters
 - leads
 - saddles
 - saddle cloths
 - bridles
 - reins
 - bits
 - stirrups with safety features
- personal protective equipment to include:
 - riding boots
 - Australian Standard, or equivalent, compliant helmets
- sample budgets for purchasing horses
- online or hard copy information about horses for sale
- sample written reports covering history of horse use, education and behaviour
- sample purchase agreements or contracts
- templates for:
 - horse education programs
 - recording horse progress and ongoing issues
 - reporting educational outcomes
- organisational policies and procedures for acquiring and education horses including those for safety and emergency response.

Assessment must ensure access to:

- human and equine first aid equipment
- communication equipment for emergency response.

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations requirements for assessors, and:

- hold a qualification or Statement of Attainment which includes this unit of competency, SISOEQU015 Acquire and educate horses for sport or recreational programs, or a qualification or Statement of Attainment which includes a unit of competency that has been superseded by this unit, and
- have at least three years' experience in a role involving acquiring and educating sport or recreational horses where they have applied the skills and knowledge covered in this unit of competency.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1ca50016-24d2-4161-a044-d3faa200268b>