

**Modification history**

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

ACMEQU409	Educate pack horses
<b>Application</b>	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to educate a horse to carry loads and work with other horses over different terrains and for varying purposes. The unit can be customised for other equines including donkeys, mules and hinnies.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals with high level experience and skills in horse handling who have responsibility for educating pack horses for a range of purposes. They work independently within organisational guidelines, deal with predictable and unpredictable situations and apply problem-solving skills to achieve outcomes.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
<b>Prerequisite Unit</b>	Nil
<b>Unit Sector</b>	Equine (EQU)

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare to educate pack horses	1.1 Establish client needs and requirements for individual horse 1.2 Assess level of education, temperament and conformation traits of the horse to ensure suitability for carrying loads and walking trails 1.3 Prepare safe, secure and controlled facilities to conduct education 1.4 Identify hazards and control potential risks to safety of handler/s and horse/s 1.5 Select and fit own personal protective equipment (PPE) 1.6 Prepare an plan to educate the horse based on individual needs, current equine learning theory and intended purpose
2. Develop foundation skills for pack horses	2.1 Develop calm and obedient behaviour by gaining trust and confidence of horse through handling, care and grooming 2.2 Introduce a halter and lead rope and educate the horse to be led and to respect the handler's space while being led 2.3 Educate the horse to focus attention and respond to cues relating to forward movement, changing direction, turning and halting within a controlled environment 2.4 Teach the horse to lead, tie up, be handled all over and pick up all feet 2.5 Desensitise the horse to equipment and new objects associated with pack gear and goods to be carried 2.6 Educate the horse to be led alongside a horse being ridden 2.7 Accustom the pack horse to tolerate close proximity to other horses in front and to the rear 2.8 Recognise and reward the horse for progress towards desired behaviours

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
3. Educate horses to carry a load	3.1 Introduce the horse to a pack saddle and fit correctly 3.2 Introduce and familiarise the horse to panniers and low hanging equipment 3.3 Lead the horse, ensuring a safe position and distance, past objects to become accustomed to size and sounds of panniers 3.4 Introduce heavier loads containing different objects, ensuring loads are balanced and secured, appropriate for the size of the horse 3.5 Recognise and respond humanely to signs of stress or fatigue in horses undergoing education
4. Further develop skills of pack horses	4.1 Train the pack horse to follow the lead horse using neck reins or lead rope 4.2 Repeat exercises in a range of environments and terrains to develop horse confidence negotiating different surfaces and obstacles 4.3 Teach horse to be restrained utilising remote area options and introduce to camp routines appropriate for intended purpose 4.4 Use appropriate techniques to manage behaviour and performance according to animal welfare principles

Foundation Skills	
<i>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.</i>	
Skill	Description
Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively source current, evidence-based information on equine education and learning theory to inform practices</li> </ul>
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use percentages or ratios to determine load to horse body weight</li> </ul>
Navigate the world of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take responsibility for complying with regulatory requirements, including work health and safety and animal welfare within own role and area of work</li> <li>Follow safe, ethical and humane horse handling industry practices</li> </ul>
Interact with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively and communicate effectively with others to plan training programs and report on horse performance and progress</li> </ul>
Get the work done	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse problems and risks, devise solutions and reflect on approaches taken</li> </ul>

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU409 Educate pack horses	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit]

<b>Links</b>	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: <a href="https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103">https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103</a>
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<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Assessment requirements for ACMEQU409 Educate pack horses</b>
<b>Performance Evidence</b>	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>carried out starting/beginning education for two horses for ground work including catching, leading, grooming and picking up all feet</li> <li>educated two horses to carry loads over different terrains whilst being led on foot and from another horse</li> <li>educated one horse to respond obediently to an overnight camp routine and yard restraints</li> <li>demonstrated safe horse handling skills and appropriate education techniques to ensure horse welfare at all times.</li> </ul>	

<b>Knowledge Evidence</b>	
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>equine behaviour, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>body language</li> <li>vocalisations</li> <li>affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue</li> <li>characteristics of horses (or other equines) to be considered in education plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>key features of current research on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning abilities relevant to training horses</li> <li>techniques to shape or modify horse behaviour</li> <li>characteristics suited to carrying loads and walking trails, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sound feet and legs, sturdy conformation, physical strength, shorter stature</li> <li>mature age - fully developed bone structures</li> <li>calm, patient temperament</li> <li>obedient in hand and under saddle - not easily spooked by noise and unfamiliar objects</li> </ul> </li> <li>facilities and environments for educating pack horses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>controlled areas - arenas, fenced tracks</li> <li>uncontrolled areas</li> <li>range of terrains and obstacles</li> </ul> </li> <li>tack and equipment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>bridle, halter</li> <li>breeching, breastplate, hobbles, cruppers</li> <li>pack saddle and saddle pads</li> <li>paniers and pack bags</li> <li>temporary yarding</li> <li>hi-lines, tree guards for tying up horses</li> </ul> </li> <li>range of job roles, environments and terrains where pack horses are used</li> <li>camp or overnight routines and environments for pack horses</li> <li>criteria for matching the pack horse with lead horse, including temperament, size, speed and stamina</li> <li>features to include in a plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>objectives and success criteria</li> <li>stages, timeframes, schedule</li> <li>tack, gear and equipment</li> </ul> </li> <li>range of purposes for pack horses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>recreation - trail rides</li> <li>tourism</li> <li>farm, agricultural work.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Assessment Conditions</b>	
<p>Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>physical conditions:</li> </ul>	

<b>Assessment Conditions</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions</li><li>• resources, equipment and materials:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• variety of horses - appropriately uneducated for the purpose of the education activity and assessed as suitable for handling by the individual</li><li>• personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual</li><li>• appropriate tack and gear required for education program.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the <i>Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training</i>.</p> <p>Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.</p>

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