

Modification history

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

ACMEQU4XX	Educate a horse in initial basic handling OR Carry out horse beginning education (title TBC)				
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required for individuals to undertake 'starting' or 'beginning' education for a horse to develop their basic handling skills. The education program is conducted on the ground prior to developing the horses' skills to be ridden, driven or other intended purpose. The unit is applicable for all classes of horses and can be customised for other domestic equids including donkeys and mules.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals, with previous horse handling experience and sound skills and knowledge of horse behaviour and learning theory. They have responsibility for educating horses for a range of disciplines or 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>				
Prerequisite Unit (Prerequisites TBC)	<p>ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely (TBC)</p> <p>Note the following chain of prerequisites that also apply to this unit.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Unit of competency</th> <th>Prerequisite requirement</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely</td> <td>ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement	ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour
Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement				
ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour				
Unit Sector	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. Assess education needs of the horse	1.1 Establish client needs and requirements for individual horse 1.2 Assess level of education and temperament of the horse to be educated 1.3 Assess conformation, condition and health of the horse to determine readiness and suitability for education program 1.4 Prepare a plan to educate the horse based on its individual needs, current equine learning theory and intended purpose
2. Prepare safe environment to commence groundwork	2.1 Prepare safe, secure and controlled facilities to commence horse ground work education 2.2 Identify hazards and assess and control potential risks to safety of handler/s and horse/s 2.3 Select and correctly fit own personal protective equipment (PPE) 2.4 Determine if the assistance of another handler is required based on risk assessment of the horse

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. Introduce horse basic handling on the ground	3.1 Develop calm and obedient behaviour by gaining trust and confidence of horse through appropriate handling and feeding 3.2 Introduce a halter and lead rope and educate the horse to be tied up and led safely 3.3 Accustom the horse to wearing a rug and being groomed and hosed 3.4 Accustom the horse to have its legs handled and all feet picked up 3.5 Familiarise the horse with tack, equipment and aids used in education exercises 3.6 Teach the horse to focus attention on handler and respond to aids, cues and communication relating to forward and backward movement, changing direction and halting within a controlled environment
4. Educate horse to load and unload on transport	4.1 Familiarise horse with transport vehicle 4.2 Habituate the horse to be in close proximity to other horses 4.3 Teach horse to enter and exit a transport vehicle 4.4 Build horse confidence in loading and unloading and being transported safely in a secured vehicle
5. Apply reward-based horse education methodology	5.1 Apply education techniques consistently to reinforce horse learning 5.2 Recognise and apply positive reinforcement to the horse for progress towards desired behaviours

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"> Actively source current, evidence-based information on equine education and learning theory to determine own education practices
Navigate the world of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take responsibility for complying with regulatory requirements, including work health and safety and animal welfare within own role and area of work Follow safe, ethical and humane horse handling practices
Interact with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work collaboratively and communicate effectively with others to plan programs and report on horse performance and progress
Get the work done	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse problems and risks, devise solutions and reflect on approaches taken

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU4XX Educate a horse in initial basic handling	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit]

Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103
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TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMEQU4XX Educate a horse in initial basic handling
Performance Evidence	
<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"> • carried out activities to educate two horses in initial basic handling according to a plan prepared for each individual horse • demonstrated safe horse handling skills and appropriate education techniques to ensure their own and other's safety and the welfare of the horse at all times. 	
Knowledge Evidence	
<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"> • safe work practices when interacting with horses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessing and controlling risks • safe horse handling techniques • safe zones around horses • duty of care for others • use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for activity • equine behaviour, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • body language and vocalisation • affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue • temperament and characteristics of different breeds and classes of horses • behaviours and conditions, typically linked to strong flight or fight response, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fearful, nervous, timid, anxious behaviour • aggressive responses to people and/or other equines • fears of specific stimuli • risks to people from equine behaviour including, biting, kicking, panicking, rearing • key features of current research on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning abilities relevant to training horses • techniques to shape or modify horse behaviour • safe environments and controlled areas, including arenas or fenced tracks • tack and equipment, including halter, lead rope • key features of horse education plan, including objectives, stages and timeframes • safe work practices and risks associated with interacting with horses. 	
Assessment Conditions	
<p>Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions including round yards or enclosed arenas suitable for educating horses in basic handling • resources, equipment and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • variety of horses –appropriately uneducated for the purpose of the education activity and assessed as suitable for handling by the individual • PPE correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual • appropriate tack and gear required for education program. <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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