Modification history

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

| ACMEQU4X8 | Educate horses to be driven |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to educate a horse to pull a load and be driven for an intended purpose. The unit applies to all classes of horses and can be customised for other domestic equids.  The unit applies to individuals with experience and skills in horse handling and driving who have responsibility for educating horses for a range of driving purposes. They work independently within organisational guidelines, deal with predictable and unpredictable situations and apply problem-solving skills to achieve outcomes.  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.  No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit  (Prerequisites TBC) | The prerequisite units of competency for this unit are:   * ACMEQU4XX Educate horses in initial basic handling * RGRPSH203 Perform basic driving tasks   Note the following chain of prerequisites that also apply to this unit.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Unit of competency | Prerequisite requirement | | RGRPSH203 Perform basic driving tasks | RGRPSH201 Handle racehorses in stables and at trackwork | |
| Unit Sector | Equine (EQU) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria | |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. | |
| 1. Prepare to educate a horse to driving | 1.1 Assess basic handling skills of the horse  1.2 Confirm client needs and requirements and adjust education plan for individual horse if required  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 correctly fit personal protective equipment (PPE)  1.6 Determine if the assistance of another handler is required based on risk assessment of the horse | |
| 2. Mouth the horse | 2.1 Familiarise horse with tack, including bridle, saddle and crupper, in preparation for driving  2.2 Mouth horse and educate to respond to directional aids and communication cues | |
| 3. Develop skills required for driving | 3.1 Introduce horse to cart and/or objects to be dragged and other relevant tack and gear  3.2 Attach harnessed horse to cart or objects to drag safely ensuring correct fit  3.3 Develop horse confidence in tasks using appropriate education techniques to ensure horse welfare at all times.  3.4 Recognise and respond appropriately to signs of stress or fatigue in horse being educated | |
| 4. Consolidate horse education | | 4.1 Accustom horse to be driven at different paces and respond to the driver's cues  4.2 Expose and familiarise horse to a range of appropriate environments after assessing potential risks to self, others and horse  4.3 Introduce the horse to specific equipment and tack required for intended purpose according to education plan  4.4 Accustom horse to be driven with other horses in close proximity  4.5 Build horse confidence and reinforce skills required for intended driving purpose |
| 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  5.3 Use appropriate techniques to manage behaviour and performance according to animal welfare principles and current equine learning theory  5.4 Assess horse acceptance of education for client's needs and their driving ability | |

| 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. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Learning | * Actively source current, evidence-based information on equine education and learning theory to determine own education practices |
| Navigate the world of work | * 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 industry practices |
| Interact with others | * Work collaboratively and communicate effectively with others to plan programs and report on horse performance and progress |
| Get the work done | * Analyse problems and risks, devise solutions and reflect on approaches taken |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMEQU4X8 Educate horses to be drivin | Not applicable | New unit | No equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet:  <https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103> |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for ACMEQU4X8 Educate horses to be driven |
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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:   * educated two horses to pull a cart and be driven at different paces * educated one horse for a specific driving purpose using appropriate equipment and tack * demonstrated safe horse handling and driving skills and appropriate education techniques to ensure their own and other's safety and the welfare of the horse at all times. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| 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:   * safe work practices when interacting with horses, including: * 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: * body language and vocalisations * temperament and characteristics of different breeds and classes of horses * affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue * behaviours and conditions, typically linked to strong flight or fight response, including: * fearful, nervous, timid, anxious behaviour * aggressive responses to people and/or other equines * overt signs of stress or injury * fears of specific stimuli * high risk behaviours to people including, biting, kicking, panicking, bucking and rearing * key features of current research on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning abilities relevant to training horses * methodology or techniques to shape or modify horse behaviour * facilities and environments used in educating a horse to be driven, including: * controlled areas - arenas, fenced tracks * uncontrolled areas - roads * tack and equipment for driving, including: * lungeing lines, long-reins * bridle, saddle, crupper, blinkers or winkers * driving harness * hobbles (harness racing specific) * driving cart * purpose of tack and equipment, how to fit correctly and how to check condition and working order * features to include in an education plan, including objectives, stages and timeframes * range of driving purposes, including: * tourism, ceremonial, recreation * farm, agricultural work * harness racing * strategies to assess level of driving ability of others. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions including controlled and open/uncontrolled areas * resources, equipment and materials: * variety of horses - appropriately educated in basic handling skills and assessed as suitable for handling and driving by the individual * personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual * appropriate carts, tack and gear required for education program.   Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training.  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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