Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 2 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0. |
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0. |

| ACMCAS410 | Conduct group dog training classes |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to develop, conduct and review training classes for companion animals and their owners. Training is generally conducted in group sessions in suitable venues or public open spaces.  This unit applies to individuals who conduct group classes to assist owners with management and training of dog behaviours commonly required in home environments. These individuals analyse information and exercise judgement to complete a range of skilled activities and demonstrate in depth knowledge in a specific technical area. They develop and communicate solutions for a range of commonly encountered problems.  All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Companion Animal Sector (CAS) |

| 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. Develop group training program | 1.1 Research community and legislative requirements for conducting dog training classes  1.2 Research normal behaviour and common training issues owners experience for relevant species and/or breeds  1.3 Determine appropriate training strategies for species based on current scientifically validated animal learning theory  1.4 Develop a training program to meet the needs of the client group  1.5 Prepare and sequence class training plans to achieve measurable goals  1.6 Select suitable venue to conduct classes based on safety, group size, and availability |
| 2. Promote and organise group training program | 2.1 Determine pricing for classes and prepare information on costings  2.2 Prepare promotional materials and distribute according to workplace requirements  2.3 Take bookings for classes and respond to enquiries professionally  2.4 Gather background information about animals, address behaviour suitability or training concerns, and finalise class arrangements |
| 3. Conduct group training classes | 3.1 Set up venue and select and use appropriate training equipment according to training plans  3.2 Conduct classes according to training plans and industry standards, including workplace health and safety and animal welfare and ethics requirements  3.3 Provide clear instructions and respond to queries using appropriate terminology and tone for the group and individuals  3.4 Monitor and manage behaviour and interactions between animals and people  3.5 Provide individual assistance and feedback, and discuss progress with class participants  3.6 Adjust training plans to address identified behaviour or training needs and set out- of -class follow up activities  3.7 Restore physical environment at conclusion of the classes and collect, store and clean training equipment according to workplace requirements  3.8 Maintain class and client records according to workplace requirements |
| 4. Provide follow up advice to clients | 4.1 Advise clients on suitable training or enrichment activities for their animal  4.4 Advise clients on longer term management strategies suitable for their animal |
| 5. Review and update group training plans | 5.1 Gather feedback from class participants according to workplace requirements  5.2 Review group feedback and incorporate personal observations to make modifications or improvements to the training plans |

| 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 |
| Reading | * Interpret current scientifically validated information to maintain knowledge of animal behaviour and training techniques |
| Writing | * Logically structure and document training plans using workplace formats and terminology |
| Oral communication | * Determine client requirements through open-ended questioning, active listening, paraphrasing and summarising |
| Numeracy | * Interpret numerical information on a profit and loss report for animal training business, including sales, wages, insurance, licenses and taxes, gross margin, gross profit and net profit * Calculate costs involved providing training classes, including fixed costs, labour, equipment maintenance, consumables, marketing and communications. |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMCAS410 Conduct group dog training classes | ACMCAS410A Conduct companion animal training classes | Revised title and changes to reflect focus from companion animals to dogs  Revised performance evidence | No equivalent unit TBC |

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

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for ACMCAS410 Conduct group dog training classes |
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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:   * researched training strategies to achieve desirable behaviours or specific training outcomes for more than one breed of dog * documented dog training program, comprising four to six classes of 30-60 minute duration, to address client group needs * conducted at least two dog training programs of four to six classes, for at least four dogs, covering: * dogs at different life stages - puppies and adult dogs * training for a new exercise * revising a previously trained exercise * provided clear instructions to clients and responded to queries or requests for assistance * monitored and interpreted the behaviour and interactions of animals and owners to ensure a safe training environment * provided feedback on progress and individual assistance to participants and animals using effective communication techniques * reviewed and updated at least one training program based on participant feedback and personal observations. | |

| 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:   * range of common breeds of companion animals relevant to role or workplace * current scientifically validated animal learning theory for relevant species * normal species and/or breed-specific behaviour for relevant animals, including: * characteristics of the species, age, health status and social needs * how to recognise body language and determine the emotional state for those species * how to recognise signs of stress and its effect on behaviour and its management * signs of undesirable or maladaptive behaviours * animal enrichment and maintenance requirements * basic animal anatomy, physiology and exercise requirements related to animal's life-stage and physical ability * humane species-specific behaviour training approaches, including: * Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive Training (LIMA) * Hierarchy of Procedures for Humane and Effective Practice * strategies to promote or advertise classes * criteria for suitable and safe physical training environments and/or venues * methods for obtaining client and animal information * formats for training programs and class or lesson plans * techniques for delivering information to groups * types, purpose and safe use of animal training equipment * safe animal handling and humane restraint techniques and procedures * principles of animal welfare and ethics relevant to animal training. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * live companion animals as specified in the performance evidence * equipment for training companion animals * relationships: * clients.   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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