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. |

| ACMSPE301 | Provide general care of amphibians |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to identify amphibians and their behavioural and physical needs and provide daily care requirements.  This unit applies to individuals working in the animal care industry where it may be necessary to care for commonly kept amphibians. This may include work in animal shelters or rehabilitation organisations, pet shops, zoos or similar workplaces. In some cases, animals may have been rescued from the wild, and successful rehabilitation is required to restore animal health and wellbeing before releasing back to their natural environment.  The unit applies to individuals who work under broad supervision and provide and communicate solutions to a range of predictable problems.  All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to Commonwealth and 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 | Species Specific (SPE) |

| 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. Identify amphibians | 1.1 Define the habitat, activity cycle and general features of amphibians commonly cared for in the facility  1.2 Identify external features using industry terminology  1.3 Classify amphibians according to taxonomy  1.4 Define, interpret and document colours, markings and other identifying features |
| 2. Identify and evaluate behavioural and housing needs | 2.1 Monitor water quality and make adjustments as required to maintain optimum water quality appropriate for the species being housed, as directed by supervisor  2.2 Identify indicators of animal comfort and normal behaviour, and recognise signs of distressed amphibians and report to supervisor  2.3 Identify industry standards and guidelines for housing design, environmental factors and appropriate stocking densities  2.4 Evaluate current animal housing design to ensure animal welfare needs are met  2.5 Implement behavioural enrichment activities for specific species of amphibian |
| 3. Approach and handle amphibians | 3.1 Identify workplace health and safety hazards associated with handling and restraining amphibians, and implement treatments to minimise risks  3.2 Select and use appropriate equipment to catch and handle amphibian  3.3 Approach amphibian safely  3.4 Handle amphibians using approved animal welfare procedures |
| 4. Assist with health care needs | 4.1 Identify signs of health in amphibian  4.2 Report signs of disease or other conditions to supervisor  4.3 Implement general health maintenance and preventative treatment procedures according to level of job responsibility |
| 5. Feed amphibians | 5.1 Identify digestive system features and relate to amphibian-specific feeding routines and diets  5.2 Identify preferred food source and assess samples for quality and suitability  5.3 Identify potential feeding hazards and implement risk control options  5.4 Prepare food and approved supplements according to dietary needs  5.5 Distribute food and water according to schedule/feeding plan or animal requirements |
| 6. Maintain records | 6.1 Complete feed and treatment records noting food consumption, health and care activities  6.2 Report abnormalities to supervisor  6.3 Complete documentation relevant to licences and transport, where required |

| 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 key information and quantities specified on product labels accurately |
| Numeracy | * Measure quantities of food and/or health treatments accurately |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMSPE301 Provide general care of amphibians | ACMSPE301 Provide basic care of amphibians | Minor changes to clarify content and assessment requirements | Equivalent unit |

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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 ACMSPE301 Provide general care of amphibians |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all the elements and performance criteria in this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has:   * identified the habitat, activity cycle and general features and needs of two different species of amphibians * provided general care for a minimum of two amphibians of different species, including (for each): * demonstrating appropriate restraint and safe handling techniques * preparing and providing food * assisting with health care needs * maintaining feed and treatment records. | |

| 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:   * anatomical structures and physiological features used to identify and classify amphibians * digestive system features of amphibians, including: * anatomical features * physiological features * feeding patterns and natural dietary requirements for the species * potential digestive system malfunctions or problems * water need * general health maintenance and preventative treatment procedures for amphibians * housing, social and activity needs of amphibians and environmental impacts on health and wellbeing * indicators of the physical condition and signs of good health in amphibians * natural amphibian behaviour relating to the characteristics of the species, age, health status, behavioural and social needs and the signs of distress, illness and undesirable behaviours * enrichment needs, including: * food or food-related enrichment * physical enrichment items * social enrichment * potential hazards and risks to animals and staff during feeding and cleaning of housing, including zoonoses * principles of animal welfare and animal welfare assessment frameworks/models, including the Five Domains * safe amphibian handling techniques and procedures, potential hazards and control measures * types and impacts of food in amphibian diets, including natural dietary requirements for specific species * indicators of food quality, including nutritional value, freshness/shelf life, free from spoilage/pests * types of information that is reported and recorded in animal care workplaces * overview of Commonwealth and state/territory legislation and codes of practice related to captured wildlife, biosecurity, work health and safety and animal welfare. |

| 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 * resources, equipment and materials: * live amphibians as required for the performance evidence * equipment and resources typically available in an animal care facility * specifications: * access to organisational policies and procedures, current legislation and relevant codes of practice * relationships: * interactions with supervisor.   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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