

Assistance Dog Trainers



Stakeholder Feedback Report - Validation

March 2022

Draft qualifications, units of competency and skill sets for the Trainers of Assistance Dogs Project were made available on the Skills Impact website for stakeholder review from 4 February to 20 February 2022. Please visit the website to view a full list of the documents that were submitted for consultation during this phase: <https://www.skillsimpact.com.au/animal-care/training-package-projects/trainers-of-assistance-dogs-project/>

Feedback was received from a variety of stakeholders around the country via email, the Skills Impact Feedback Hub, webinars, phone and email, as follows:

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	National
Government Federal									
Government State									
Government Local									
Employer									
Peak Industry Body									
IRC Representative									
Regulator									
Training Board									
Registered Training Organisation (RTO)									
Union									
State Training Authority (STA)									
Other									

Note: Stakeholders of all types were contacted in each jurisdiction to both inform them of the project and to encourage them to be involved.

Below is a summary of the feedback raised for the draft qualifications, skill sets and units reviewed for the project at the Validation stage, and how these have been dealt with. This involves a consideration of the information provided, views of industry stakeholders and from people who are part of the Subject Matter Expert Working Group (SMEWG) process. Resolutions are constructed to consider the needs and views of stakeholders to the extent possible, and to comply with the Standards for Training Packages 2012. The resolutions may represent a compromise on one or more stakeholder views with the aim of a workable outcome for industry, State and Territory Training Authorities (STAs) and training providers.

Acronyms: PC – Performance Criteria, PE – Performance Evidence, KE – Knowledge Evidence, AC – Assessment Conditions, SMEs – Subject Matter Experts, SMEWG – Subject Matter Expert Working Group, CVIG – Companion Volume Implementation Guide, UG – User Guide, ACM – Animal Care and Management, Australian Qualification Framework – AQF

<p>Organisation Type: Other</p> <p>Coverage: VIC</p> <p>Stakeholder Comments: Document approved in validation</p> <p>Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Thank you for your feedback.</p>
<p>Organisation Type: Employer</p> <p>Coverage: VIC</p> <p>Stakeholder Comments: Document approved in validation</p> <p>Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted Thank you for your feedback.</p>
<p>Organisation Type: Employer</p> <p>Coverage: ACT, NSW</p> <p>Stakeholder Comments: Document approved in validation</p> <p>Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted Thank you for your feedback.</p>
<p>Organisation Type: Employer</p> <p>Coverage: NSW</p> <p>Stakeholder Comments: Document approved in validation</p> <p>Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted Thank you for your feedback.</p>
<p>Organisation Type: Employer</p> <p>Coverage: TAS</p> <p>Stakeholder Comments: Document approved in validation</p> <p>Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted Thank you for your feedback.</p>
<p>Organisation Type: Employer</p> <p>Coverage: VIC</p> <p>Stakeholder Comments: Document approved in validation</p> <p>Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted Thank you for your feedback.</p>

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: TAS

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - QLD x 2, Employer - TAS x 1, Employer - VIC x 1, Peak Industry Body - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

ACMSS000X6 Assistance Dog Training Skill Set

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: TAS

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - QLD x 2, Employer - TAS x 1, Employer - VIC x 1, Peak Industry Body - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: TAS

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:
Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted
Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - QLD x 2, Employer - TAS x 1, Employer - VIC x 1, Peak Industry Body - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Very often there is no medical referral supplied or help requested from a medical source. Often from social workers etc. Recommend a more generic wording - and imperative that medical info shows the handlers medical limitations as they affect how and what you train & what equipment you can use or where dog walks etc. This to safeguard dog and handler.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. 'Capabilities and limitations of assistance dogs' was added to Knowledge Evidence.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

It could say medical or allied health referral to cover doctors, social workers, occupational therapists, psychologists, etc.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback. Terminology agreed to by SMEs for referral is 'health care professionals'.

Knowledge Evidence

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Agree, this needs to be changed into head collars - Halti may be well known, but not the best for this training.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. Changed to 'halter' in all units.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Is disability and disorder across physical, sensory, MH, neuro and developmental all covered in this unit? There's a very broad range of medical terminology, conditions, diagnoses and then there's interpreting the physical/ mental/ cognitive implications of those terms. Is there an existing TAFE unit (e.g. in disability and aged care) that covers what AD trainers need to know. Could that be added in as a core unit and then this one can build on it?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback. Disability is referenced in Knowledge Evidence as a reason to employ an assistance dog. The assistance dog trainer (ADT) units are not directly related to human disability but once endorsed they may be utilised in other qualifications that deal more directly with health care.

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: TAS

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution:

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - QLD x 2, Employer - TAS x 1, Employer - VIC x 1, Peak Industry Body - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Assessment Conditions

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

So agree - maybe use 'professional referrals'

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. Terminology agreed to by SMEs for referral is 'health care professionals'.

Knowledge Evidence

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Wording may need to be changed for a few of these to include parents who are trained as primary handlers for assistance dogs that support their child. The primary handler, assistance dog and child then work in a triangular handling structure in the community (typically caregiver and child each with own lead walking on each side of the dog). At home the assistance dog supports the child with or without parent support depending on needs of the minor.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback. 'Family' included - PC 1.2 has been amended.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Again need to ensure age of dog is related to tasks and training ability. The older the dog the less uptake and slower outcomes that will not last - and affect the welfare of the dog in question

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback. The User Guide to accompany these new units of competency includes detailed information about dog welfare in relation to age, and includes a section on identifying signs that a dog is nearing retirement.

Performance Criteria

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Referrals are mostly from carers / social network controls etc - so putting medical would limit this.
Would 'professional' referral help solve this?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. Terminology agreed to by SMEs for referral is 'health care professionals'.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Valid comment! We should be realistic with handlers expectations. Often outcomes are determined by handlers limitations. Steer for realistic, measurable, and accountable outcomes.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback. Addition to Knowledge evidence : 'capabilities and limitations of assistance dogs'.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

RE: PC 4.1

This assumes the handler has already a dog - may well not suit handler service dog requirements (size, fur/coat, temperament etc). Should have option to recommend other dog to do the job.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback. Element 4 and its PCs are designed to focus on the needs and wellbeing of a dog that is being considered as an assistance dog, and yes that may be a dog that is already owned by the handler. This Elements also takes into consideration factors that will determine whether that dog is suitable for an assistance dog - it may not be suitable, which is addressed in Element 5.

Performance Evidence

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

I can see why this would be valuable but is it realistic to expect all learners to have access to a prospective handler with declining or fluctuating functionality?

How would we define fluctuating functionality i.e. different to regular individual fluctuations in mood/energy level/etc.?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback. Discussed in validation workshop and it was agreed that 'declining or fluctuating functionality' covered many conditions and is acceptable for assessment (because it says 'or' not 'and').

ACMADT4X3 Train handlers to coach assistance dogs

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

RE: Application

Para 1 - Suggest remove "or debilitating health conditions"

Para 2 - Suggest change to "This unit applies to individuals who conduct group and individual training to teach owners/carers how to train desirable behaviours in assistance dogs in domestic and community environments."

Comment "owners/carers" - "Should this be handlers?"

Comment Para 2, sentence 2 - "This is unclear to me."

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback. SMEs agreed not to continue with the development of this unit. Its content has been absorbed into ACMADT4X4.

"Debilitating health conditions" has been deleted from 4X4.

All references to "owners/carers" has been changed to "handlers in all relevant units."

Paragraph 2 in the Application of all units refers to the AQF packaging level.

ACMADT4X4 Instruct handlers with disability to train assistance dogs

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: TAS

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - QLD x 2, Employer - TAS x 1, Employer - VIC x 1, Peak Industry Body - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Assessment Conditions

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regretfully not too many disabled people work - so please ensure that 'workplace' is referred to where the dog works; can be home, on walk; shop, transport etc.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. In the context of the unit it is implied that the "workplace" being referred to is that of where the training is taking place and not the handler's own workplace. However, workplace definition is also included in the User Guide to help clarify this.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Am concerned that communication should be at handler level; no sense to write big stories that do not result in additional outcomes. Speak/write to handlers at their level.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback. Extensive writing is not a requirement of this unit. Reference to 'research' in PE is targeted to assistive dog behaviour for human disability types.

Knowledge Evidence

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

does "preventing sensory overload" capture what we mean? Do we more mean "preventing and/or minimising sensory overload and stress"

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback. Yes - SMEs requested that this be included in KE.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

"trained behaviours" would be more appropriate here, the example list sounds specific to medical alert roles so perhaps could provide broader examples to cover physical, mental health assistance dogs

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback. The reference about 'tasking' (PC 1.2) does not refer to specific behaviours. SMEs advised no change to be made.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Head collars / head harness - but great for handlers with disabilities, lack of strength etc. very much recommended for this type of training - but needs to be fitted properly and desensitized properly.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback. ACMADT301 Select appropriate equipment for an assistance dog and handler addresses desensitizing equipment. Further information is also included in the User Guide.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

(RE: KE point 7)
maybe split this into two lists, one for handlers and another for dogs?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback. SMEs agreed that the reference would be for a 'handler/assistance dog team'. Emphasis on 'team'.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

are we just talking about assistance dogs here, or more broadly about other types of animal assisted services? Would be clearer if more specific

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback. All references are to 'assistance dogs' as defined by the title and in the Application.

Performance Criteria

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

3.2 and modifications as required. Things change with clients, due to change in health, medication etc. So no plan will do the full run - we need to be open to constant adjustments.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback. "Scope for flexibility and contingencies' is referenced in PC 3.2.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

"display alerting behaviour" is specific to only one type of assistance dog. Propose alternative to be "respond by displaying appropriate assistance as trained"

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback. 'Alerting behaviour' has been amended to a second level bullet point. The first level bullet point is now 'appropriate assistance dog behaviours, as trained'.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

So agree with 1837 (previous comment) - respond with the trained behaviour.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback. 'Alerting behaviour' has been amended to a second level bullet point. The first level bullet point is now 'appropriate assistance dog behaviours, as trained'.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

agree with 1837 and 1101 - trained behaviour

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. 'Alerting behaviour' has been amended to a second level bullet point. The first level bullet point is now 'appropriate assistance dog behaviours, as trained'.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Does it fit here to include "provide ongoing support to the handler and assistance dog for the duration of the partnership. Including annual PAT and regular (at least yearly but ideally more) support as required to meet changing needs and goals

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback. This unit does not refer to ongoing for the duration of the partnership (this cannot be assessed). However, in ACMADT401 Assess prospective handler's suitability for an assistance dog, in the KE there is reference to a handler 'being motivated for a long term reciprocal relationship with a dog during its lifetime beyond the assistive tasks that it can provide.'

Performance Evidence

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

to me it sounds like you mean they need to instruct one team during one session, and another (different) team at another session at a different time point?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback.

Yes, this is correct. PE is:

'An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- instructed two different handler and prospective assistance dog teams during two sessions:
 - in each session, provided instruction in suitable methodologies, practices and responses to human verbal or visual cues in order to respond to specific human disabilities
 - researched and maintained resources relating to training assistance dogs for four specific disability traits.

ACMADT4X5 Train dogs using operant and classical conditioning techniques

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: TAS

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - QLD x 2, Employer - TAS x 1, Employer - VIC x 1, Peak Industry Body - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Assessment Conditions

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Valid point - public must be included in training. Maybe skills must be demonstrated in two different 'working' areas, including one where handler team is surrounded by 'public' eg shopping arcade, shopping centre etc

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. This is covered by PC 3.3 which discusses public access.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

head collars / head harnesses see my earlier comment.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. Equipment listed in KE has been updated.

Performance Criteria

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

age, breed, social skills and general health are all factors to include when you assess the dog.

Assume that order of these units is depending on trainer - as this would be one of the first things you would do.

AND be honest enough to discuss concerns and options.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. In KE there is reference to:

- dog breeds and breed types and associated characteristics and temperaments

- a dog's emotional maturity
- a dog's temperament
- dog/handler team or partnership interactions and requirements

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

2.1 imperative to include here the 'bond' between handler and dog - without a suitable bond training is unlikely to succeed.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. PC 2.1 refers to suitable training for a 'dog/handler team'. The emphasis is always on the team to reinforce the bond.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Confined is a good idea, but above all not a busy environment. As handler team settles, you can move to a busier, bigger, more complex environment. Handler team sets the pace.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. PC 3.3 states that dogs should initially be introduced to public access in a confined area. More information about dog training is in the User Guide which describes basic training (in a quiet environment) and then more complex training.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

From my experience, you work with ideally one handler team at the time to ensure specific skill levels have been achieved.

Only in case of dog-to-dog socialisation, or helping with fear of dog in another team have worked together.

You need all attention on one team; group classes are unlikely beneficial and may have negative outcome if you fail to observe things.

So observing 4 handler teams in two sessions each is a reasonable evidence I believe.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback. PE allows for one to one training.

ACMADT5X1 Train dogs in specific and complex tasks

Organisation Type: Other

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution:

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: ACT, NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: TAS

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - ACT x 1, Employer - NSW x 1, Other - SA x 1, Other - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: NSW

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: NT, QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Document approved in validation

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - QLD x 2, Employer - TAS x 1, Employer - VIC x 1, Peak Industry Body - National x 1

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Performance Criteria

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

applies to both handler and dog - same applies also when selecting a suitable venue. Often a start at home is ensures that all parties are as relaxed as possible. The better the environment the easier the learning.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

2.1 The 'BOND' between handler and dog is the foundation for the rest - it has to be included as a 'measure' of where and how we apply training and help.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

The assistance dog/handler bond is emphasised in all assistance dog trainer (ADT) units

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

3.1 Where does the plan adjust to the needs of the handler team?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Modifying the training plan if there's signs of stress or fatigue is referenced in PC 4.1.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Appropriate to the handler team needs and way of training.

NB: great to have a plan, but these handler teams are very much individual cases and needs - some need a lot; others little.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for your feedback.

Organisation Type: Employer

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Comment below is very valid - tasks are different per client and you may only train on more general tasks like warning, nudging, hand licking etc, rather than eg learning how to pay money at the till..... Try and make assessments more geared to handler needs as they are all different. So expecting these things from every team is unrealistic and in my mind inappropriate.

General good behaviour and a relaxed well working team is a much better standard to assess to than complex skills that may be required for some but likely few.....

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.