

ACM20121 Certificate II in Animal Care

DESCRIPTION

This qualification describes the skills and knowledge for entry-level and support roles in the animal care and management industry, where workers provide care for animals in workplaces such as animal shelters, boarding/daycare facilities, sanctuaries, and veterinary clinics. The work activities are routine, performed under supervision, and within clearly defined guidelines.

No licensing, legislative, or certification requirements apply to this qualification at the time of publication.

ELIGIBILITY/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To gain entry into ACM20121 Certificate II in Animal Care, candidates require the following:

- Complete placement in an animal care facility for 20 days over their studies.**

To ensure you have the right skills and support to succeed in your course, a Language, Literacy, and Numeracy (LL&N) evaluation helps identify any areas where you may need additional support to help you achieve your goals.

DELIVERY DETAILS

Location(s)	Duration*	Study mode
Katherine Rural	6-12 months Full-time	Blended
Casuarina	12-18 months Part-time	Workplace

* Duration will vary depending on how long a student takes to reach the required competency level.

** If you do not meet this requirement, contact the CDU delivery team/Lecturer to discuss your options.

Students engage with learning aspects of the course through Learnline, which is CDU's premier Learning Management System.

Candidates organise and complete a placement in an animal care facility for 20 days over their studies.

FEES

Fee Type	2025 Course Fees
Fee Free TAFE*	Free
Full Fee	\$5,737.80 - \$6,288.00

*This course is part of the Fee Free TAFE initiative. Fee Free TAFE and vocational education and training is a joint initiative of the Northern Territory Government and Australian Governments providing tuition-free training places to students wanting to train, retain or upskill.

Fee-free places are available for eligible domestic students who are NT residents; limited places are available, so secure your place now.

Fees shown are indicative and subject to change annually. Actual course fees may vary depending on the units chosen. International non-student visa-holders; study eligibility needs to be verified before enrolment. Fees may vary depending on the visa type. The course fee rates will vary for commercial contract arrangements.

For further clarification and information on fees, payment options, instalment plans, and refunds, contact CDU on 1800 061 963 or refer to [TAFE Fees and Payments](#).

ASSESSMENT

Assessments vary with each unit. You will be provided with an assessment guide.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

RPL is a process that determines whether the skills, knowledge, and experience you have gained through your previous study, work or life experience can count towards a vocational training qualification at CDU. For more information, refer to [VET RPL](#).

RESOURCES

For the course ACM20121, it is a requirement to use the BSAVA Textbook of Veterinary Nursing 6th Edition for the duration of the studies. This can be obtained online or by arrangement with CDU. These textbooks provide the underpinning knowledge required for the units of competency. This course will also require access to the internet and a suitable device.

STUDY AND CAREER PATHWAYS

Further training pathways from this qualification include but are not limited to Certificate IV Veterinary Nursing.

Possible occupations relevant to this qualification include:

- dog groomer assistant
- animal care or pet shop attendant
- animal shelter attendant
- kennel hand or cattery attendant
- veterinary assistant

QUALIFICATION CONTENT

To achieve ACM20121 Certificate II in Animal Care, a total of twelve (12) units of competency must be completed comprising seven (07) core and five (05) elective units as detailed in the packaging rules and listed below. The electives offered may vary between campuses.

CORE UNITS

ACMGEN201	Work in the animal care industry
ACMGEN202	Complete animal care hygiene routines
ACMGEN203	Feed and water animals
ACMGEN204	Assist in health care of animals
ACMSUS201	Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices
ACMWHS201	Participate in workplace health and safety processes
BSBCMM211	Apply communication skills

ELECTIVE UNITS (select 5)

ACMINF201	Handle companion animals safely and follow infection control guidelines
ACMSPE316	Provide general care of domestic dogs
ACMSPE317	Provide general care of domestic cats
HLTAID011	Provide First Aid (credit transfer)
ACMGEN205	Source and provide information for animal care needs
ACMEQU214	Prepare to work safely around horses

WITHDRAWING FROM A QUALIFICATION

You may withdraw from this qualification and receive, where relevant, a Statement of Attainment for all units of competency you have successfully completed.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The University supplies support for students in many areas, including Accommodation, Careers and Employability, Counselling, Disability Services, Student Advocacy, Indigenous Tutorial Support Services, International Student Support Services, Library Services, and VET Learner Support Services.

More information is available at [Student Support](#).

CONTACT DETAILS

Agriculture and Rural Operations

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T. 08 8973 8311
W. <https://www.cdu.edu.au/study/essentials>

For further information regarding student life at CDU, please refer to <https://www.cdu.edu.au/study/student-life>.