



# Animal Care and Husbandry

AHC32816 **Certificate III in Rural Operations**



**RST**  
RTO code 140107

Regional Skills Training  
Providing training solutions for rural and regional Australia

## Course overview

The Regional Skills Training (RST) Animal Care and Husbandry Program offers you the opportunity to gain skills in animal care under an AHC32816 Certificate III in Rural Operations.

This 12 month program is aimed at students who wish to pursue a career in the animal care industry. Workshops are delivered face to face in a school environment or on farm to relevant industry practical training.

You will learn the basics of animal care and husbandry practices, animal first aid, wildlife rehabilitation, administering medication, livestock health, nutrition and grooming. You will have the opportunity to participate in an overnight field trip to Monarto Zoo and receive hands-on experience in working in a captive animal facility.

## Topics/units of competency

### AHCWRK309 APPLY ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE WORK PRACTICES

Access appropriate industry information, legislative and workplace health and safety (WHS) guidelines applicable to environmentally sustainable work practices in animal care industries.

### ACMGAS206 PROVIDE BASIC FIRST AID FOR ANIMALS

- > Provide essential first aid for animals by recognising and responding to an emergency using basic first aid measures
- > The first aid provider is not expected to deal with complex casualties or incidents, but can provide an initial response where first aid is required

### ACMSPE304 PROVIDE BASIC CARE OF DOMESTIC DOGS

- > Be able to identify common dog breeds
- > Understand the behavioural, care, nutrition and housing needs
- > Capably handle and restrain dogs

### AHCFAU301 RESPOND TO WILDLIFE EMERGENCIES

- > Evaluate and coordinate a response to natural resource emergencies involving fauna
- > Care for affected animals
- > Determine options including return to wild or temporary captive management

- > Remove animal carcasses
- > Complete debrief and prepare reports

### AHCLSK301 ADMINISTER MEDICATION TO LIVESTOCK

- > Apply preventative health treatments and other medications to animals
- > Select, use and maintain specialised animal health equipment
- > Move and handle animals for health treatments
- > Prepare treatment site
- > Facilities and equipment
- > Carry out treatments
- > Monitor effectiveness of treatments and provide follow up if required
- > Maintain records of treatments

### AHCLSK318 REAR NEWBORN AND YOUNG LIVESTOCK

- > Weigh and assess condition of newborn and young animals
- > Handle and care for newborn and young animals
- > Recognise signs of stress or ill health in newborn and young animals
- > Provide support as needed to veterinarians attending to sick newborn and young animals
- > Wean animals humanely
- > Provide the necessary feed and shelter

### ACMCAN307 REHABILITATE NATIVE WILDLIFE

- > Provide immediate care for rescued animals including treatment of injury
- > Establish infection control to manage disease
- > Provide nutrition, care and treatment to allow for rehabilitation as quickly as possible

### AHCLSK302 MATE AND MONITOR REPRODUCTION OF ALPACAS

- > Prepare animals for mating
- > Adjust nutritional program where required and monitor to produce optimum condition for mating
- > Facilitate and supervise mating - Identify receptive females and ensure paddock or pen mating areas are suitable
- > Complete mating procedures - identify pregnancy status of animals and take suitable action as required. Record details of mating.

**Enrol NOW**  
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*“The Monarto Zoo experience really woke me up and has inspired me in the direction I want to take”*

### **ACMCAS306 PROVIDE GROOMING SERVICES FOR COMPANION ANIMAL COMFORT**

- > Providing animal grooming services for companion animals to maintain/restore animal comfort within an established grooming environment
- > Assess the health and condition of an animal's coat and determine grooming requirements
- > Industry-recognised grooming methods and procedures for different breeds
- > Handle animals
- > Use and maintain grooming equipment
- > Communicate effectively
- > Maintain records as required

### **ACMCAN305 ASSIST WITH CAPTURING, RESTRAINING AND MOVING ANIMALS**

- > Capture animals in need of rescue or relocation
- > Minimise stress and discomfort and safely move the animal
- > Understand the complexities associated with large animal rescue
- > Ensure dead animals are disposed of with care

### **ACMGAS303 PLAN FOR AND PROVIDE NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ANIMALS**

- > Identify correct nutrition, evaluate food sources, prepare diets and monitor diet responses
- > Animals may include companion animals in pet shops, boarding kennels and catteries, breeding facilities, animal shelters and zoos

### **AHCWHS301 CONTRIBUTE TO WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY PROCESSES**

- > Work in accordance with workplace procedures in hazard identification and risk control
- > Carry out safe practices during work operations
- > Participate in arrangements for maintaining the health and safety of all people in the workplace
- > Work safely with animals

### **AHCLSK331 COMPLY WITH INDUSTRY ANIMAL WELFARE REQUIREMENTS**

- > Implement animal welfare practices and procedures
- > Discuss and report animal welfare problems
- > Have a close look at RSPCA, animal welfare shelters, and what animal welfare issues exist in small animal industries, zoos, wildlife parks, domestic animals

### **AHCLSK309 IMPLEMENT ANIMAL HEALTH CONTROL PROGRAMS**

- > Monitor animal health status and refer to the production plan for intervention strategies
- > Accurately diagnose the type and severity of infection or parasite infestation
- > Determine the type and scope of treatment
- > Administer treatments and observe withholding periods
- > Monitor animals for treatment effectiveness

### **MSL973019 PERFORM MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION**

- > Use laboratory techniques to develop slides and view biological samples
- > During this process you will dissect a carcass, isolate organs, inject stains and suture

### **ACMSPE302 PROVIDE BASIC CARE OF BIRDS**

- > Identify birds and their behavioural and physical needs
- > Learn basic handling, health care, enrichments and feeding requirements

Units and Industry requirements may be subject to change.

## **Funding and eligibility information – WorkReady and traineeships**

Certificate III qualifications are often selected by school-based trainees or Training Guarantee for SACE Students (TGSS) eligible students as their preferred level of qualification if they are seeking to earn Stage 2 SACE credits. Each unit completed under a Certificate III

qualification will earn a student Stage 2 SACE credits. Students can earn up to 150 SACE credits. In addition, a Certificate III qualification can be used towards a student's ATAR score.

Courses are available under a number of different subsidy arrangements. Please talk to your school, apprenticeship centre or RST about your options or eligibility for:

- > Traineeships for school-based students -- to commence a traineeship you must have an employer and a Contract of Training
- > Training Guarantee for SACE Students (TGSS) -- to utilise TGSS you must be 16 years old and have approval from your school

Subsidised training places are available subject to eligibility. Refer to the course fee sheet for cost details. Check your eligibility at [www.skills.sa.gov.au](http://www.skills.sa.gov.au).

Accessing WorkReady funding may affect your eligibility for future funding.

## **Concession**

A concession rate is available if you hold a valid concession card. Refer to the course fee sheet for concession cost details.

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **DO I NEED TO COMPLETE WORK PLACEMENT?**

Students who are completing their training under a Training Guarantee for SACE Students (TGSS) arrangement are required to complete 70 hours of relevant work placement.

### **DO I NEED TO HAVE ACCESS TO ANY ANIMALS OR EQUIPMENT TO COMPLETE THIS COURSE?**

Students need to wear work boots for practical field trips, and arrange a medium or long haired dog for the grooming workshop.

### **WILL I NEED TO COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS?**

All workshops will have at least one written assignment. Some also have practical assessment. Students will also work on a nutrition research project throughout the duration of their course.

Refer to the RST Student information book for further details.



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Information contained in this brochure is current at the time of production but is subject to change based on Government funding notifications or unforeseen circumstances. Please contact RST to confirm if the information in this brochure is current.