



ACM20121

CERTIFICATE II

in

Animal Care

RTO 41462



TRAINEESHIP

Course Details



Duration

1 year (12 months)



Delivery Mode

Blended (online & work placement)



Start Date

Enrol anytime



Fees

This course is **funded** by the **Queensland Government** under the Career Start program, with a small student co-contribution fee of **\$1.60 per nominal hour**.



Recognition

Nationally Recognised Qualification

ACM20121 Certificate II in Animal Care

is the ideal entry point for anyone wanting to begin a rewarding career with animals. Delivered online with practical training and work placement, this course builds essential animal care and workplace skills while preparing you for roles in shelters, clinics, grooming, and more—or as a pathway to higher study.



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ACM20121 CERTIFICATE II ANIMAL CARE

Course Overview

If you have a genuine love for animals and want to turn that passion into a rewarding career, the **ACM20121 Certificate II in Animal Care (Traineeship)** is the perfect way to begin your journey in the animal care and pet services industry. This nationally recognised qualification allows you to **earn while you learn**, combining paid on-the-job training with online study and real workplace experience in a professional animal care environment.

As a trainee, you'll gain invaluable hands-on experience working directly with animals while developing the essential knowledge and skills required to thrive in this growing industry. You'll learn how to safely handle and care for a variety of species, assist with feeding, bathing, grooming, and exercising animals, and support daily routines such as cleaning enclosures, monitoring health and behaviour, and applying basic first aid and infection control procedures.

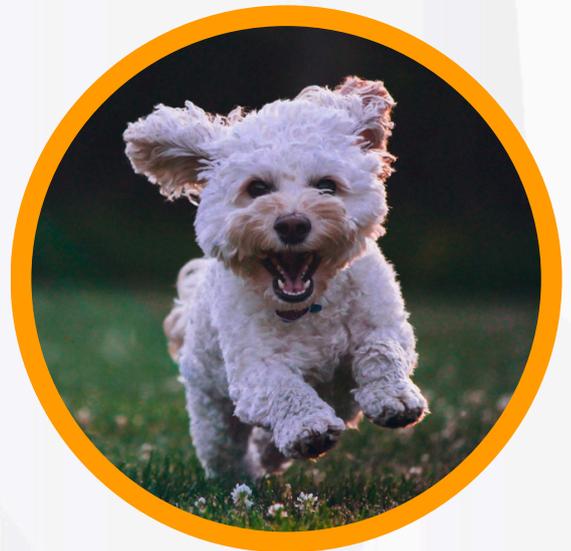
You'll also build a strong foundation of workplace and professional skills — including effective communication, teamwork, customer service, problem-solving, and time management — while learning about workplace health and safety requirements and environmentally sustainable practices that are vital in any animal care setting.

This traineeship gives you the opportunity to gain nationally recognised qualifications while being employed and supported by experienced industry professionals. You'll graduate with real-world experience, practical skills, and the confidence to take the next step in your animal care career.

Upon completion, you'll be ready for entry-level roles such as animal attendant, grooming assistant, kennel or cattery attendant, or pet shop assistant. You'll also have the opportunity to continue your studies with the **ACM30122 Certificate III in Animal Care Services (Pet Grooming specialisation)**, **Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing**, or **Certificate IV in Animal Behaviour and Training**.

Traineeship Eligibility

- ✓ be aged 15 years or over
- ✓ be no longer at school
- ✓ permanently reside in Queensland
- ✓ Be an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, New Zealand citizen or temporary residents with an eligible visa subclass.
- ✓ You must not have already completed two traineeship qualifications within the last 10 years



Course 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
- ACMGEN309** Provide basic animal first aid
- ACMGEN310** Provide reception services for an animal care facility
- ACMGRM201** Bath, dry and brush domestic dogs
- ACMSPE316** Provide general care of domestic dogs
- ACMSPE317** Provide general care of domestic cats



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is a traineeship?

A A traineeship is a fantastic way to combine paid employment with formal, nationally recognised training. It allows you to earn an income while gaining valuable hands-on experience in the animal care industry. As a trainee, you'll work under the supervision of experienced professionals in a real workplace while completing your theory studies online. This means you'll graduate with both a qualification and real-world experience, giving you a strong advantage when pursuing your career.

Q Do I get paid during my traineeship?

A Yes! One of the best parts of a traineeship is that you are a paid employee while you study. You'll earn an income based on the National Training Wage or the relevant industry award. This means you can gain a qualification, build your career, and get real work experience — all while earning money.

Q What kind of work will I do during the traineeship?

A During your traineeship, you'll be actively involved in the daily care and welfare of animals. This includes tasks such as feeding, cleaning enclosures, bathing and grooming dogs, exercising animals, and monitoring their health and behaviour. You'll also learn how to handle animals safely and humanely, assist with basic first aid, and maintain a clean and safe work environment. In addition to hands-on care, you'll also develop customer service and teamwork skills that are essential in the animal care industry.

Q Where can I work as a trainee?

A As an animal care trainee, you can work in a range of exciting and rewarding environments. These may include veterinary clinics, pet grooming salons, boarding kennels, catteries, animal shelters, rescue centres, and pet retail stores. Your traineeship employer must be an approved animal care workplace where you can complete your required practical training hours and demonstrate your skills under professional supervision.

Q How is the training delivered?

A The Certificate II in Animal Care traineeship is delivered through a blend of online learning and practical workplace experience. You'll complete your theory-based units online through your training organisation's learning portal, allowing you to study flexibly around your work schedule. Meanwhile, your practical skills will be developed and assessed directly in your workplace by qualified trainers and assessors. This ensures your training is relevant, engaging, and based on real-world experience.

Q What support will I receive during my traineeship?

A You'll be fully supported throughout your traineeship by both your trainer and your employer. Your trainer will provide regular check-ins, feedback, and workplace visits to help guide your learning and assess your progress. You'll also have access to online study support, student services, and additional resources if you ever need assistance. The goal is to ensure you feel confident, capable, and supported every step of the way.

Q Is this course funded?

A Yes. The traineeship is funded by the Queensland Government under the Career Start program, which helps eligible students access high-quality training with minimal upfront costs. Students are required to pay a small co-contribution fee of \$1.60 per nominal hour, which is the government-regulated contribution toward their training. This makes the traineeship one of the most affordable and accessible ways to start a professional career working with animals.

