



ACM30122

CERTIFICATE III in Animal Care Services

RTO 41462



SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIP

Course Details



Duration

2 year (24 months)



Delivery Mode

Blended (online & work placement)



Start Date

Enrol anytime



Fees

Study **free** under Queensland Government funding — school-based trainees pay no student fees!



Recognition

Nationally Recognised Qualification

ACM30122 Certificate III in Animal Care Services

is the perfect step for anyone ready to advance their career working with animals. Delivered online with hands-on practical training, this nationally recognised course develops your professional skills in animal care, health, and welfare, preparing you for roles in veterinary clinics, grooming salons, shelters, and boarding facilities — or as a pathway to further study in specialised areas such as animal behaviour, training, or veterinary nursing.



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ACM30122 CERTIFICATE III ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

Course Overview

The **ACM30122 Certificate III in Animal Care Services** offers Queensland high school students an exciting opportunity to begin a rewarding career working with animals through a School-Based Traineeship (SAT). Under Queensland Government funding, eligible students can complete this nationally recognised qualification with no student fees, combining school, work, and training in one flexible program.

As a school-based trainee, you will gain valuable hands-on experience by working in the animal care industry one day each week, or the equivalent of **750 hours** (100 days) **over 2 years**, while continuing your high school studies. This allows you to earn and learn at the same time, gaining practical industry experience and nationally recognised skills that contribute towards your Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

The course is delivered through a combination of online theory learning and structured workplace training, allowing you to apply your knowledge directly in real animal care environments. Throughout your traineeship, you will develop skills in animal handling, feeding and hydration, health monitoring, and basic first aid. You will also learn to follow ethical and humane care practices, implement hygiene routines, and understand workplace health and safety requirements.

In addition to animal care knowledge, you will strengthen your professional skills in communication, teamwork, customer service, and sustainability — all essential for success in the animal care industry. By the end of the program, you will be confident and job-ready to work in a range of animal care settings, including pet shops, grooming salons, animal shelters, boarding kennels, catteries, sanctuaries, and veterinary practices.

Delivered by the National Skills Training Institute, this qualification provides a strong foundation for future study and career growth. Graduates can choose to continue their education in specialised areas such as veterinary nursing, animal behaviour and training, or pet grooming, opening the door to a wide range of career pathways within the animal care and management industry.

Traineeship Eligibility

- ✓ Be enrolled in **Year 10, 11 or 12** at a registered Queensland school (or registered for home education).
- ✓ Be working towards Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) or equivalent.
- ✓ Have the school's support for the traineeship.
- ✓ Commit to the minimum paid work hours required as part of the traineeship.
- ✓ Parental consent if under 18.



Course Units

- ACMBEH301** Identify behaviours and interact safely with animals
- ACMGEN315** Communicate effectively with clients and team members
- ACMGEN303** Assess welfare status of an animal
- ACMGEN304** Promote positive wellbeing for self and others in animal care workplaces
- ACMGEN309** Provide basic animal first aid
- ACMINF301** Comply with infection control policies and procedures in animal care work
- ACMWHS301** Contribute to workplace health and safety processes
- ACMGRM201** Bath, dry and brush domestic dogs
- ACMSPE316** Provide general care of domestic dogs
- ACMGEN310** Provide reception services for an animal care facility
- ACMBEH302** Provide enrichment for animals
- ACMGEN311** Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing
- BSBCMM211** Apply Communication Skills
- ACMGEN314** Identify animal anatomy and physiology for animal care work
- ACMSPE317** Provide general care of domestic cats
- ACMGEN205** Source And Provide Information for animal care needs
- BSBOPS304** Deliver and Monitor a Service to Customers



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q How does a school-based traineeship work ?

A School-based apprenticeships and traineeships (SATs) allow high school students (usually in Years 10, 11 or 12) to earn a wage, train towards a nationally recognised qualification and study towards their Queensland Certificate of Education at the same time. Use your SAT to kick-start your career and learn invaluable, real-life workplace skills and hands-on industry experience.

Q Do I get paid as a trainee ?

A Yes, as a school-based trainee, you are entitled to be paid for the work you perform as part of your traineeship. The pay you receive will depend on factors such as the industry, your age, and the level of qualification you are undertaking. The pay rates for school-based trainees are typically based on the relevant modern award or enterprise agreement that covers the industry. It's important to note that the pay rates may vary, so it's recommended to consult with your employer or relevant authorities to understand the specific wage conditions and entitlements applicable to your traineeship.

Q How many hours are required to work ?

A You're required to work a minimum of 7.5 hours per week, averaged over every three months, which equals at least **750 hours** (or **100 days**) over 2 years. These work hours don't include your study or training time with your training organisation. Your hours can be averaged throughout the year to allow for exam periods, holidays, or illness, and if you wish, you can work extra hours (such as on weekends or during school holidays) by agreement with your employer, parent or guardian, school, and training provider.

Q How does training work ?

A The **National Skills Training Institute** will work with you and your employer to develop a personalised training plan that outlines what you'll learn, when your training will take place, and how it will be delivered. All theory training is completed online, while practical skills are developed and assessed in your workplace under supervision. Depending on your traineeship and course, you may complete your online theory training during a spare period at school each week, and your practical training in the workplace, with a trainer from the National Skills Training Institute visiting regularly to observe, support, and assess your progress.

Q Do i need to pay any fees for a School based Traineeship ?

A No. If you meet the Queensland Government eligibility criteria for a school-based traineeship, you won't have to pay any student co-contribution fees — your training is fully funded. This means the cost of your nationally recognised qualification is covered by the government, so you can focus on learning and gaining hands-on experience.

Q What career or study pathways can I take after completing the Certificate III in Animal Care Services?

A Many students go on to entry-level roles in the animal care industry, such as working in pet shops, grooming salons, animal shelters, boarding kennels, catteries, sanctuaries, or veterinary clinics. This qualification gives you the practical skills and industry experience to start your career in caring for and handling animals.

You can also continue your studies to advance your skills and career opportunities. Popular training pathways include the **ACM40322 Certificate IV in Animal Behaviour and Training**, or the **ACM40418 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing**, depending on your career goals. These higher-level qualifications can lead to specialised roles such as dog groomer, veterinary nurse, animal trainer, or animal welfare officer.