



Photo courtesy of RSPCA Victoria

Certificate II in Animal Studies

ACM20110

What does this course involve?

This course provides general training for people seeking employment in the animal care industry and to provide foundation skills and knowledge for those people who wish to pursue further studies in this area.

Instruction around daily animal care routines includes feeding, maintaining hygiene and housing, grooming, observation and ensuring animal safety and well-being. There is an element of customer service, as well as providing information on products and services.

This intensive course will be delivered at RSPCA Burwood East and has a significant online component. Practical work will involve working hands-on with a variety of animals including dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, sheep, guinea pigs, goats, horses, cows and even a goose.

Length of Course

Students attend 7 teaching days of classes, 1 assessment day and 3 days of structured work placement. Classes are held on the weekdays. Practical work placements are in the RSPCA animal shelter and the large animal barn.

In addition to the face-to-face and practical work placements, participants must successfully complete 15 weeks of online learning and assessment. Students must have their own Wi-Fi device in order to access Student Web in class and at home. Online delivery constitutes approximately 6 hours per week.



School of Health Sciences, Science and Animal Studies
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Course structure

This course comprises a total of twelve (12) units of competency. Students must successfully complete the seven (7) core units & the five (5) chosen electives.

Core

ACMOHS201A	Participate in the OH&S process
ACMGAS201A	Work in the animal industry
ACMGAS202A	Participate in workplace communication
ACMGAS203A	Complete animal care hygiene routines
ACMGAS204A	Feed and water animals
ACMGAS205A	Assist in the healthcare of animal
ACMSUS201A	Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices

Chosen Electives

ACMGAS206A	Provide basic first aid for animals
ACMGAS208A	Source information for animal care needs
ACMGAS209A	Provide information on companion animals, products and services
ACMSPE304A	Provide basic care of dogs
ACMSPE305A	Provide basic care of domestic cats

Entrance Requirements

This course has a significant practical component with a focus on employability skills. Applicants must possess the communication skills and the physical ability to perform practical work placement in the animal care industry. Vocational education and training for animal assistants is work-based. Work placement in an approved animal care facility is necessary in order to provide access to an appropriate animal workplace, a qualified workplace supervisor, exposure to appropriate workload and practice in the skills necessary to successfully complete this course.

How to apply

Places are limited and allocated after assessment of a written application and interview with RSPCA teaching staff.

You must:

- have completed Year 10
- be available to attend classes at the RSPCA East Burwood
- willing to participate in weekday work placement at the RSPCA; and
- have your own Wi-Fi device to access online resources and assessments

Employment Opportunities for graduates

Employment opportunities for animal assistants are diverse. The Certificate II in Animal Studies is nationally recognised and allows you to work throughout Australia in animal care as a shelter attendant, kennel hand, cattery or pet shop attendant or assistant dog groomer.

Pathways

After completing this course many students go on to study a Certificate III in Animal Technology, Certificate III in Captive Animals, Certificate III in Pet Grooming, Certificate IV in Companion Animal Services or Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing at Box Hill Institute.

This course is delivered at RSPCA Burwood East. For more information please visit the RSPCA website <http://rspcavic.org/services/education/>

Please note that this is not a VET in school (VETis) delivery & will not contribute towards your Year 12 ATAR Score.

Secondary school students are not eligible for a Government subsidised place.