

8th May 2024

Jobs and Skills Australia
E: CoreSkillsList@jobsandskills.gov.au

RE: Draft Core Skills Occupations List (CSOL) for Consultation

Animal Care Australia (ACA) is a national incorporated association established to consult with government in advocating for real animal welfare by those who keep, breed and care for animals. Our goal is to promote and encourage high standards in all interactions with the animals in our care.

Committee members of Animal Care Australia have experience in and carry out the training of individuals who occupy the occupations being reviewed.

Animal Care Australia supports the following be included in the Migration Strategy along with the suggested qualification course:

Confident on list

ANZSCO Code	ANZSCO Title	Industry sector
234711 Bachelor of Veterinary Science	Veterinarian	Animal care and management
361111 ACM40322 Certificate IV in Animal Behaviour and Training	Dog Handler or Trainer	Racing and breeding/Animal care and management

Targeted for consultation

149911 Acm40222 Certificate Iv in Facility Management	Boarding Kennel or Cattery Operator	Animal care and management
234115 AHC51920 Diploma of applied Agronomy	Agronomist	Animal care and management
311113 ACM30122 Certificate III in Animal Care Services	Animal Husbandry Technician	Animal care and management
322113 ACM40818 Certificate IV in Farriery	Farrier	Animal care and management
361114 ACM30321 Certificate II in Wildlife and Exhibited animal care	Zookeeper	Animal care and management
361311 ACM40418 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing	Veterinary Nurse	Animal care and management

While Animal Care Australia supports the above being included we do not support **452313 Horse Riding Coach or Instructor, Animal care and management** being targeted for migration placements when fully experienced citizens are being refused qualifications based on what appears to be biased accreditation facilitators. Recent attendees of the Horse Safety Australia accreditation courses for this qualification report that Horse Safety Australia is denying RPL accreditation to persons with extensive experience in coaching and instructing.

With TAFE removing equine courses from its curriculum there are very limited pathways for this qualification to reflect the diversity of the horse industry, and recent law changes (in NSW in particular) have led to qualified and experienced persons in related occupations becoming unqualified overnight. Bridging the new gap is unnecessarily difficult.

Solving this issue by filling the vacancies through migration is not in Australia's interests when we have citizens willing and experienced to fill these roles. Horse Safety Australia, who has been legislated as an accreditation organisation is NOT an RTO, and is holding applicants to ransom with clinics that are not fit for purpose - presumably for profit and a level of ideology.

The pathways to Horse Riding coach and instructor accreditation needs to be reviewed within Australia, incorporating RTO's and relevant National Equestrian Organisations to ensure that the Australians currently willing to fulfil these positions have genuine avenues to do so.

We welcome an opportunity to meet with you to discuss this matter.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and a long, sweeping underline.

Michael Donnelly
President
0400 323 843

About Animal Care Australia

As a nationally recognised animal welfare organisation, Animal Care Australia encourages continued development of animal welfare standards and Codes of Practice for animal husbandry, breeding, training, sale, and sporting exhibitions for a wide range of animal species, including pets, animals used for educational or entertainment purposes or kept for conservation, and in particular native birds, reptiles, and mammals.

Animal Care Australia was founded in early 2018 to establish an organisation run solely by volunteers to lobby for real animal welfare. With extreme animal rights and animal liberationist ideologies influencing government legislation, regulation, and policy at our expense and to the detriment of our animals and pets, it has become necessary to provide government with a balancing voice.

By uniting the broad spectrum of animal groups, collectively we offer an experienced, sensible approach to animal welfare.

By educating our members and the public about the importance of treating animals with kindness and respect for their needs and promoting the humane treatment of animals to improve animal welfare outcomes, Animal Care Australia is in the unique position of lobbying and advocating for all animals within our care.

Animal Care Australia provides priority to the following:

- advocating for stronger welfare outcomes
- advocating to increase education of the public in animal welfare and best care techniques
- educate the public on handling their animals with kindness & respect and the importance of their needs
- educate the public in the differences between animal welfare and animal rights