

Title	Identify, handle, transport, and care for cats		
Level	3	Credits	4

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is intended for people working in an animal care context.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify cats by breed, age, sex, and individual characteristics; handle and restrain a cat for routine activities, and describe procedures for handling cats in non-routine situations; and feed, water, groom, and transport a healthy cat.</p>
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Classification	Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

1 Legislation, standards, and codes relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:

- Animal Welfare Act 1999;
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996;
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
- Resource Management Act 1991;
- New Zealand Standard NZS 4304:2002 *Management of Healthcare Waste*, available at <https://www.standards.govt.nz/shop/nzs-43042002/>;
- Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available at <https://www.nzva.org.nz/>;
- Relevant National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare, available at www.mpi.govt.nz, under Animal Welfare;
- Relevant National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) guidelines, available at www.mpi.govt.nz under Animal Welfare; and any subsequent amendments.

2 Definitions

Animal facility refers to a facility such as an animal boarding facility, a veterinary clinic, pet shop, or animal welfare facility.

Workplace procedures refer to the documented procedures for animal care, handling, and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer of the animal facility and must be consistent with equipment manufacturer's recommendations.

- 3 For the purposes of assessment:
- evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be supplied from a workplace or organisation.
 - evidence must be presented in accordance with workplace procedures.
 - for assessment of Outcome 3, the candidate is expected to meet the daily care requirements of a healthy cat in an animal facility or other commercial setting such as an animal facility over a period of at least three days. The three days are not required to be consecutive.
 - practical handling must be assessed using a live cat.
- 4 Information about cat breeds can be found at <http://www.fanciers.com>.
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Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Identify cats by breed, age, sex, and individual characteristics.

Performance criteria

1.1 Identify cats in terms of their breed.

Range may include but is not limited to – domestic short hair, domestic long hair, Siamese, Burmese, Birman, Abyssinian, Devon rex, Cornish rex, Persian, chinchilla;
evidence is required for at least eight.

1.2 Identify cats in terms of their age and sex.

Range kitten, adult, senior;
male – neutered, entire;
female.

1.3 Document a cat's individual characteristics for the purpose of identification for admission to an animal facility.

Range includes but is not limited to – colour, weight, distinguishing features;
may include – name, tags, microchip.

Outcome 2

Handle and restrain a cat for routine activities, and describe procedures for handling cats in non-routine situations.

Performance criteria

2.1 Handle a cat safely for routine activities in a secure environment.

Range top and front-loading cages – remove from cage, replace in cage;
carry cat out of cage.

2.2 Restrain a cat safely for clinical examination.

Range may include but is not limited to clinical examination for – temperature, heart rate, eye examination, ear examination; evidence is required for at least three.

2.3 Describe procedures for handling fractious, pregnant, injured, senior, and unwell cats.

Outcome 3

Feed, water, groom, and transport a healthy cat.

Performance criteria

3.1 Feed and water a cat.

3.2 Maintain feeding equipment.

3.3 Groom a cat.

3.4 Maintain grooming equipment.

3.5 Transport a cat safely within the animal facility.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	30 June 1996	31 December 2019
Revision	2	16 December 1996	31 December 2019
Revision	3	16 November 1998	31 December 2019
Review	4	12 June 2000	31 December 2019
Revision	5	16 October 2002	31 December 2019
Review	6	26 July 2005	31 December 2019
Revision	7	25 June 2007	31 December 2019
Review	8	1 November 2018	31 December 2022
Review	9	26 August 2021	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0228
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary ITO standards@primaryito.ac.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.