

40941 Care for and train an aviation working dog for an airport role

Kaupae Level	4
Whiwhinga Credit	30
Whāinga Purpose	<p>People credited with this skill standard are able to be responsible for the care and training of aviation working dogs for roles within airport environments in support of aviation security and safety.</p> <p>The standard reflects the unique demands of working in regulated, high-security aviation contexts and promotes best practices in animal care, and operational readiness.</p>

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Implement health and safety protocols for aviation working dogs.	a. Identify and manage risks associated with handling working dogs in airport environments.
	b. Apply safe handling and restraint techniques during routine situations.
	c. Demonstrate procedures for transporting dogs safely.
	d. Administer basic veterinary first aid in accordance with organisational protocols.
2. Manage kennel operations and canine welfare for an aviation working dog.	a. Maintain kennel hygiene and environmental standards to support canine health.
	b. Implement feeding, grooming, and exercise routines appropriate to working dogs.
	c. Monitor and document canine behaviour, health, and performance.
	d. Use and maintain issued canine equipment correctly and safely.

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
3. Apply training principles to develop working dog capabilities.	a. Apply core principles of canine learning and behaviour modification.
	b. Conduct targeted training exercises to develop, maintain or enhance operational readiness.
	c. Evaluate training outcomes and adjust techniques to meet operational goals.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

Assessment specifications:

Assessments must be conducted in an active or simulated airport environment to ensure practical application to reflect the standards of an aviation workplace.

Evidence presented for assessment against this skill standard must be in accordance with enterprise procedures.

Definitions:

Aerodrome means any defined area of land or water intended or designed to be used either wholly or partly for the landing, departure, and surface movement of aircraft; and includes any building, installations, and equipment on or adjacent to any such area used in connection with the aerodrome or its administration.

The term *airport* refers to aerodrome as per Civil Aviation Rules.

Aviation working dog is a generic term to describe a working dog within an aviation environment. Examples could include but are not limited to a military working dog, Aviation Security explosive detector dog, Customs detector dog, biosecurity detector dog.

Reference to *enterprise procedures* means that all activities must comply with the requirements contained in the current airport exposition, current airport company manuals and procedures, and any relevant legislative and/or regulatory requirements, which may include but are not limited to: Civil Aviation Act 2023, relevant Civil Aviation Rules, MPI Code of Welfare – Dogs, New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) Policy.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

Implementing health and safety protocols

- Overview of aviation workplace health and safety legislation and protocols.
- Risk assessment and mitigation strategies.
- Safe transport procedures: vehicle setup, crate standards, and transit logistics.
- Basic veterinary first aid procedures, including wound care, heat stress, and dehydration.

Managing kennel operations and canine welfare

- Kennel hygiene standards, cleaning protocols, pest control, and biosecurity.
- Environmental management: temperature, ventilation, noise control.
- Nutrition and hydration for working dogs.
- Grooming, exercise, and rest cycles.
- Behavioural monitoring: signs of stress, fatigue, or illness.
- Record-keeping and health monitoring.
- Use and maintenance of issued equipment: leashes, harnesses, muzzles, transport crates.

Applying training principles

- Principles of basic canine learning: classical and operant conditioning.
- Obedience commands and agility drills.
- Scent detection techniques.
- Use of training aids and environmental conditioning.
- Monitoring and evaluating training effectiveness.

Rauemi | Resources

[CAA Advisory Circular AC140-1 Aviation Security Service Organisations – Certification](#)

[Ministry for Primary Industries Code of Welfare – Dogs](#)

Enterprise procedures.

Pārongo Whakaū Kounga | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Ringa Hora Services Workforce Development Council
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Service Sector > Aviation > Airport Operations
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0112

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	27 November 2025	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	This skill standard and skill standard 40942 replaced unit standard 28997.		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2030		

Please contact Ringa Hora Services Workforce Development Council qualifications@ringahora.nz to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.