

AHC21216 Certificate II in Rural Operations

DESCRIPTION

This qualification provides an entry point for students interested in joining the northern pastoral industry. As such, no previous experience in the pastoral or rural industries is required.

Depending on the units selected individuals can be employed not only in rural industries but also in other rural and regional sectors, such as local government, tourism, hospitality, transport, construction, community services, information technology, and metals.

Industry expects individuals with this qualification to carry out routine tasks under general supervision and exercise limited autonomy with some accountability for their work.

No occupational licensing, legislative, or certification requirements apply to this qualification at the time of publication.

ELIGIBILITY/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A Language, Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy (LLND) evaluation helps identify any areas where you may need additional support to help you achieve your goals.

To gain entry into AHC21216 Certificate II in Rural Operations candidates require:

- To be physically fit, active, and able to function effectively in a tropical environment, as this is a physically demanding course; and,
- students must have a work contract with an approved employer to undertake a traineeship.

DELIVERY DETAILS

Location(s)	Workplace/Station
Duration*	6 – 2 years
Study mode ^^	On location
Dates ^	A specific commencement date will be determined in consultation with the delivery team.
Attendance	Attendance is by arrangement with the delivery team

* Duration may vary depending on how long a student takes to reach the required competency level.

^ Course timetable will be provided on application for the course.

^^ Information relating to study modes can be found in the 2026 TAFE Student Guide

FEES

Fee Type	2026 Course Fees
Fee Free TAFE*	Free
Full Fee	\$5,962.50 - \$10,732.50

*This course is part of the Fee Free TAFE initiative. Fee Free TAFE and vocational education and training is a joint initiative of the Northern Territory Government and Australian Governments providing tuition-free training places to students wanting to train, retain or upskill.

Fees shown are indicative and subject to change annually. Actual course fees may vary depending on the units chosen. For International non-student visa-holders; study eligibility needs to be verified before enrolment. Fees may vary depending on the visa type. The course fee rates will vary for commercial contract arrangements.

For further clarification and information on fees, fee exemptions, payment options, instalment plans, and refunds, contact CDU on 1800 061 963 or refer to [TAFE Fees and Payments](#)

ASSESSMENT

Skills and knowledge assessments are an essential step in progressing through your course. You may be assessed in a number of ways including written assessment, questioning, portfolios, work samples, direct observation, practical assessments and third-party feedback.

Throughout your course you will receive information about assessments including how, when and where assessments will be conducted.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

RPL is a process that determines whether the skills, knowledge and experience you've gained through your previous study, work or life experience can count towards a vocational training qualification at CDU. For more information, [VET RPL](#).

CREDIT TRANSFER (CT)

Charles Darwin University as a Registered Training Organisation recognises the Australian Qualifications Framework qualifications and Statement of Attainments issued by any other Australian Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

Students are encouraged to submit any requests for credit from previous studies at the time of enrolment, to ensure they are not enrolling in units they may not need to undertake.

RESOURCES

Students are issued with CDU logbook and a set of Study Guides for the applicable units/clusters. These study guides provide the underpinning knowledge required for the units of competency and assist with the completion of formative theory tasks in the student logbook. Students may also access the internet to conduct their research, although this is often difficult on remote stations. Most of the learning occurs on-station during day-to-day work activities.

STUDY AND CAREER PATHWAYS

Further training pathways from this qualification include but are not limited to.

- AHC30122 - Certificate III in Agriculture
- AHC32822 - Certificate III in Rural Operations
- AHC31421 - Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystem Management

Job roles and titles vary across different industry sectors and will include multifunctional job roles that suit regional Australia.

QUALIFICATION CONTENT

To achieve AHC21216 Certificate II in Rural Operations, a total of fifteen (15) units of competency must be completed comprising three (3) core and twelve (12) elective units as detailed in the packaging rules and listed below. The electives offered may vary between campuses.

CORE UNITS

AHCWRK204	Work effectively in the industry
AHCWRK209	Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices
AHCWHS201	Participate in work health and safety processes

ELECTIVE UNITS *(select 12)*

AHCMOM205	Operate vehicles
	Horse Group
ACMEQU212	Handle horses safely
ACMEQU214	Prepare to work safely around horses
ACMEQU217*	Load and unload horses
ACMEQU218*	Perform horse riding skills at walk, trot and canter
	Cattle Group
AHCWRK214	Observe workplace quality assurance procedures
AHCWRK215	Collect and record production data
AHCMOM201	Operate two-wheel motorbikes
AHCWRK213	Participate in workplace communications
AHCINF206	Install, maintain, and repair farm fencing
	Other Units
AHCMOM202	Operate tractors
AHCMOM203	Operate basic machinery and equipment
AHCMOM204	Undertake operational maintenance of machinery
AHCMOM207	Conduct front-end loader operations
AHCMOM216	Operate side-by-side utility vehicles
AHCINF208	Fabricate and repair metal or plastic structures
AHCBIO303	Apply biosecurity measures
AHCWRK323	Operate in isolated and remote situations
RIISAM203E	Use hand and power tools
TLID0020	Shift materials safely using manual handling methods

Pre-requisite units.

ACMEQU217 Pre-requisite Unit *ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely

ACMEQU218 Pre-requisite Unit *ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely

WITHDRAWING FROM A QUALIFICATION

You may withdraw from this qualification and receive, where relevant, a Statement of Attainment for all units of competency you have successfully completed.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The University provides support for students in many areas, including Accommodation, Careers and Employability, Counselling, Disability Services, Financial Support Services, Student Advocacy, Indigenous Tutorial Support Services, International Student Support Services, Library Services, and VET Learner Support Services.

More information is available at [Student Support - Life, Health and Wellbeing](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

Agriculture and Rural Operations

E: vet.agriculture@cdu.edu.au

T: 08 8973 8311

W: <https://www.cdu.edu.au/tafe>

For further information regarding student life at CDU, please refer to <https://www.cdu.edu.au/study/student-life>.