

CERTIFIED

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# CAH

COMPANION ANIMAL HYGIENIST

*Offered By  
The World Wide Pet Supply Association*

*Those displaying the Companion Animal Hygienist (CAH) Certificate are committed to professionalism and have enhanced their knowledge and skills for grooming companion animals.*

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:**

1. To identify those individuals who have a level of skills consistent with the standards established for a Companion Animal Hygienist.
2. To expand, increase and enhance the knowledge of proper procedures and use of products and equipment in the performance of this occupation.
3. To acquaint other interested individuals in the field with the methods and skills employed by a Companion Animal Hygienist so that they may better serve the industry and the pet owning public.



## **WHAT IS A COMPANION ANIMAL HYGIENIST?**

### **A Companion Animal Hygienist shall be able to –**

- Identify common breeds of companion animals
- Understand, maintain and update client records
- Report on the general physical condition, skin, eyes and teeth of animals seen
- Identify presence of parasites
- Brush and/or comb the animal according to the coat-type and condition
- Dematt in a safe and humane manner
- Trim nails
- Identify presence of dermatological problems
- Examine and clean ears following procedures recommended by the veterinarian
- Select the correct bathing procedures according to coat-type and condition

### **A companion Animal Hygienist shall have knowledge and understanding of –**

- Animal behavior
- The safe and humane treatment of animals in their care
- Various animal handling techniques
- Basic animal anatomy and terminology
- Grooming ethics and appropriate responsibility to the client
- The safe and proper use of tools and equipment required for each procedure
- The safe and proper use of therapeutic shampoos, oil treatments, rinses and conditioners
- Anal glands in normal, healthy animals, and at all times follow the recommendations of the veterinarian
- The safe and proper use of pesticides and chemicals
- Appropriate drying techniques and equipment as they relate to specific animals
- Disinfecting procedures
- How to maintain a clean, safe and sanitary work environment
- Finishing touches; i.e. bows, wraps, foot pads, trip-up, etc

### **Eligibility Requirements –**

Persons with 360 hours of experience as a bather or groomer who wish to upgrade their skills are qualified to take this course and examination. A Companion Animal Hygienist (CAH) Certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the examination

### **For Participation –**

Interested persons such as retail personnel, sales representatives, distributor sales personnel and/or manufacturers may participate in the course without taking the examination or receiving certification.

### **Phase 2 and Phase 3**

Upon successful completion of this CAH course, participants will be eligible for Phase 2 – “Study of Clipper & Scissor Techniques” and Phase 3 – “The Grooming of Cats.”