



# **Australian Grooming Safety Standards (AGSS)**

## **Certification Guide**

Supporting Safe, Professional Grooming Practices Across Australia

Program Guide — Current Development Phase

# Introduction

The Australian Grooming Safety Standards (AGSS) framework has been developed to support safe, structured, and professional grooming environments. It provides guidance, readiness assessments, and a pathway toward certification.

This guide explains how the program works, what is assessed, and how businesses can prepare for certification.

## What is AGSS Certification?

AGSS certification is a structured recognition program for grooming businesses that demonstrate strong safety practices, hygiene standards, and operational procedures.

- 1 Improved client trust and confidence
- 2 Reduced workplace risk
- 3 Structured safety systems
- 4 Professional industry recognition

## Certification Pathway

- 1 Step 1: Register for a Readiness Assessment
- 2 Step 2: Implement recommended improvements
- 3 Step 3: Certification audit (future phase)
- 4 Step 4: Ongoing participation and reviews

## What is Assessed

AGSS assessments review all critical areas of grooming operations:

- 1 Facility safety and environment
- 2 Equipment safety and maintenance
- 3 Hygiene and infection control
- 4 Animal welfare practices
- 5 Staff training and supervision
- 6 Risk management and documentation

## Assessment Areas Explained

Facility Safety includes layout, flooring, lighting, ventilation, and emergency access.

Equipment Safety includes tables, restraints, clippers, dryers, and maintenance practices.

Hygiene covers sanitation, cleaning processes, and infection control.

Animal Welfare includes handling, monitoring, stress awareness, and safe restraint.

Staff Training includes procedures, supervision, first aid, and safety awareness.

## Current Program Status

AGSS is currently conducting readiness assessments and onboarding founding salons. Certification audits and star ratings will be introduced in a later phase.

## Founding Salon Participation

Founding Salons are early participants supporting the development of AGSS standards.

- 1 Recognition as a Founding Salon
- 2 Access to introductory assessment rates
- 3 Priority updates and program access
- 4 Preparation for certification

## Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need certification? No, it is voluntary.

What if improvements are required? You will receive guidance and recommendations.

Who can participate? Salons, mobile groomers, home-based, and veterinary grooming services.

## Next Steps

- 1 Register for a readiness assessment
- 2 Apply to become a Founding Salon
- 3 Contact AGSS for more information