

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)		
<b>Version 1.0</b>	Issued on <b>8/08/2020</b>	Review by <b>8/08/2021</b>
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Refer to the following Legislative Frameworks		
<b>Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015</b>	Clause 1.8 to Clause 1.12	
<b>National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018</b>	Standard 2	
<b>Other</b>	Data Provision Requirements 2012 Student Identifiers Act 2014	
<b>Related Documents (Internal)</b>		
Australian International Institute of Technology Orientation Presentation and Materials Australian International Institute of Technology Student Handbook Australian International Institute of Technology Student Written Agreement Credit Transfer Mapping Tool Form: Application Form: Credit Transfer Form: Letter of Offer Policy and Procedure: Credit Transfer Exemptions Policy and Procedure: Education Agents Policy and Procedure: Marketing and Recruitment Practices Policy and Procedure: Providing Secure Certification Policy and Procedure: Training and Assessment Strategy and Practices Recognition of Prior Learning Skills Recognition Kits as per registered scope Training and Assessment Strategy (TAS) and Practices documents as per registered scope USI Transcript Verification Process Guidance Statement		
<b>Related Documents (External)</b>		
AQF Assessment of foreign qualifications AQF Qualifications Issuance Policy AQF Certification Documentation: An Explanation ASQA Fact Sheet - Sample AQF Documentation MyGov Statutory Declaration Table 1.8-2: Rules of Evidence USI Privacy Notice		

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## 1. Purpose

Prior study, together with work and life experiences, may have provided an Australian International Institute of Technology applicant for enrolment or a student with competence in the outcomes prescribed in an Australian Qualification Framework endorsed Training Package or Qualification. Australian International Institute of Technology's will ensure that all applicants for enrolment and students have access to the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process.

If an applicant who applies for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is able to demonstrate learning, skills and knowledge that meet the performance criteria, range statement, performance evidence and knowledge evidence (as per the Assessment Conditions) of the units of competency for which the candidate is applying for recognition of prior learning.

## 2. Scope

This policy and procedure applies to Australian International Institute of Technology's applicants for enrolment and current students. It also applies to all Marketing and Recruitment, Student Services Administration and Academic employees engaged in supporting the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) application and assessment processes.

## 3. Definitions

**AQF** - Australian Qualifications Framework specifies the standards for educational qualifications in Australia.

**Certification Documentation** - is the set of official documents that confirms that a qualification has been completed and awarded to an individual.

**CoE** - Confirmation of Enrolment

**Credit Transfer Exemption (CT)** - the granting of status or credit by an institution or training organisation to students for modules (subjects) or units of competency completed at the same or another institution or training organisation.

**Credit for Prior Learning** - an apprentice or trainee may gain 'credit' for relevant prior learning or experience. This prior learning or experience must be formally recognised and may mean the duration of the training contract can be changed.

**Equivalency Test** – a test to measure the extent to which a person's existing knowledge or skills satisfy the requirements of an education or training program or a job.

**PRISMS** - Provider Registration and International Student Management System

**Recognition of Current Competencies (RCC)** - the assessment of a person's current capacity to perform; it applies if an individual has previously successfully completed the requirements for a unit of competency or a module and is now required to be reassessed to ensure that the competence is being maintained.

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** - the acknowledgement of a person's skills and knowledge acquired through previous training, work, or life experience, which may be used to grant status or credit in a subject or module. It can lead to a full qualification in the VET sector.

**Statement of Attainment (SOA)** - formal certification in the vocational education and training sector by a registered training organisation that a person has achieved:

- part of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) qualification; or
- one or more units of competency from a nationally endorsed training package; or (c) all the units of competency or modules comprising an accredited short course.

**Qualification** - formal certification that is awarded by an accredited authority in recognition of the successful completion of an educational program.

**Record of Results** – or a **Transcript** is a certified record of a student throughout a course of study having full enrolment history at educational school including all courses attempted, grades earned, and awards conferred.

**RTO** - Registered Training Organisation

**Testamur** - the AQF defines a Testamur as '*an official certification document that confirms that a qualification has been awarded to an individual*'.

**Unique Student Identifier (USI)** - a national student identifier (or number) for vocational education and training (VET) students with the capability of being fully integrated with the entire education and training system and potentially, also covering early childhood education.

#### 4. General Guidelines

In order for Australian International Institute of Technology to grant recognition of prior learning a verified assessor must be confident that an Applicant can present evidence that is currently competent against the endorsed industry or enterprise competency standards or outcomes specified in the relevant Training Package as published on the National Register; <https://training.gov.au/>.

The evidence to support an application and decision may take a variety of forms and could include certification, industry accreditation, references from past employers, testimonials from clients and valid work samples.

The Assessor must ensure that the evidence meets the *principles of assessment* and the *rules of evidence* and deems all evidence to be authentic, valid, reliable, current, and sufficient.

This *Australian International Institute of Technology skills recognition kit* is a guide, which aims to facilitate the skills recognition process. It contains sections relevant to the Applicants self-assessment against the units of competency contained in the qualification or accredited course. It also contains information on how to construct an evidence plan that will allow applicants to proceed to a formal assessment of skills once the required evidence is collected.

The templates and other tools contained in the Assessment System for each unit of competency also provide the Assessor with useful information to assist the process - and they describe the sufficiency of evidence required to demonstrate competency for each unit of competency.

Unsuccessful applicants requesting Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) may apply to have their assessment decision reviewed. All appeals regarding credit transfer assessments must be in writing and lodged at the reception counter within **ten (10) working days** of the credit transfer exemption assessment outcome being made available to the applicant. For more information refer to the *Complaints and Appeals policy and procedure* <https://aiit.vic.edu.au/pol-pro>.

The information about the *Complaints and Appeals policy and procedure* is further provided in the *Student Written Agreement*, the *Student Handbook*, and the *Student Orientation* presentation and materials.

#### 5. Evidence Requirements

Evidence is the material proof that the student has performed the task to a required standard. Evidence can take many forms and the Australian International Institute of Technology Assessor will use the evidence you present to support their judgement of your competence. In the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process it is your responsibility to gather suitable evidence to prove what you have achieved.

Sufficient evidence (this does not necessarily mean 'lots') for each Unit of Competency is required and the more recent the prior learning the more value such evidence has as an indication of current competence. Examples of evidence that should be provided by the applicant can include:

- Certified copies of certificates, qualifications and other documents from courses undertaken at other institutions, Registered Training Organisations, TAFE's, and universities.

- Statements outlining courses and or study undertaken and the learning outcomes and/or competencies from these.
- Details of positions held in the workforce
- Curriculum vitae (CV) or resume of work experience (this may include reports from work colleagues)
- Certified copies of any statements, references or articles about a candidate's employment or community involvement
- Relevant samples of completed work tasks (e.g. Rosters, Recipe Cards, SOPs)
- Licences or Workplace Accreditation (e.g. White Card, Blue Card of Food Handler Certificate)
- Verifiable Photographs of work undertaken
- Diaries or Workplace Journals
- Task sheets and Position Descriptors
- Logbooks and Timesheets
- Pay slips and Timecards
- Membership of relevant professional or industry associations (e.g. Australian Culinary Federation)
- Industry Awards
- Performance Appraisals
- Industry involvement including completed events, functions, or trade shows.
- Relevant work or other experiences
- Evidence of self-directed study, which may include a list of recent readings, synopsis of seminars attended, reports of own research or analysis undertaken.

## **6. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Fee**

There will be a fee for the processing of each Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) application. The fee applies for each individual unit of competency for which a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) assessment is being sought. Payment of the fee must be made prior to, or with, the submission of the application for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

The Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) fee is listed on the Australian International Institute of Technology *Tuition Fee Register* and is further provided in the *Student Written Agreement*, the *Student Handbook*, and the *Student Orientation* presentation and materials.

## **7. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Steps Summary**

1. The applicant is to arrange an appointment with the Australian International Institute of Technology delegated Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Assessor. This session and meeting are aimed to provide the applicant an understanding and overview of how the skills recognition process works and what the Assessor can do to help the process and your application.
2. The applicant is to ensure to make time to discuss the application with the Academic Manager or the designated Assessor from the field of study chosen. This informal discussion will be the first step in demonstrating the applicant's skills and competence.
3. The Assessor will require evidence of the applicant's skills and relevant primary evidence will assist confirm and verify it. These methods could include practical demonstrations, copies of Position Descriptions, Employment Contracts, Rosters, or written evidence (Statutory Declaration) from a confirmed Supervisor or a Manager.
4. The applicant and the assessor will need to collaborate to collect any additional secondary information needed. The Assessor will negotiate with the applicant how that might be done-it might be it through a workplace visitation, a practical demonstration, providing documents from other training courses or supporting evidence the applicant has developed from their employment experiences e.g. a Business Plan, a Marketing Plan, Recipe Cards, Menu's etc.
5. Assessment. The Assessor will inform, and provide feedback, which skills have been recognised after a consider review and mapping of the submitted primary and secondary evidence. Each unit of competency will gain the applicant a nationally recognised statement of attainment. The applicant will also be able to source information about further training to continue your learning pathway and employment opportunities into the future.

6. Signature of the applicant and endorsement by the Assessor. Both parties will need to sign the completed skills recognition kit confirming that the applicant has been provided feedback and accept the decision.

## 8. Changes to course duration upon granting of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

If a credit transfer exemption is granted as an outcome of an application for recognition of prior learning (RPL) to an offshore applicant for enrolment, and that applicant has, or intends applying for, a student visa, the course duration (which will be reduced from the usual course duration) is indicated in the CoE subsequently issued for that student.

Should a credit transfer exemption be granted as an outcome of an application for recognition of prior an recognition of prior learning (RPL) to a student onshore, and that student has a student visa, the change in course duration is reported via the *Provider Registration and International Student Management System (PRISMS)*.

A recognition of prior learning (RPL) to *does not under any circumstances* lead to an overseas student on a student visa carrying any less than a full-time load of study. For an existing onshore student, a note is made in the student management system, of the change in course duration for the student.

## 9. Responsibility

The delegated Assessor is responsible for following the mechanisms, guidelines, protocols, and assessment practices in relation to the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) applicant in alignment with the policy and procedure and the *principles of assessment* and *rules of evidence*. Further the Assessor is responsible for supporting the applicant through the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process.

The Academic Manager is responsible for the effective implementation and management of this policy as well as provision of information on how to resolve complaints of breaches of this policy.

Any complaints or breaches in relation to this policy should be reported to the Chief Executive Officer in person or by email to [ceo@aiit.vic.edu.au](mailto:ceo@aiit.vic.edu.au).

## 10. References

Source	Document Title	Version - Date
External	Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) <a href="https://www.aqf.edu.au/">https://www.aqf.edu.au/</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
	Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) - Assessment of foreign qualifications <a href="https://www.aqf.edu.au/assessment-foreign-qualifications-0">https://www.aqf.edu.au/assessment-foreign-qualifications-0</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
	AQF Qualifications Issuance Policy	PDF
	AQF Certification Documentation: An Explanation	PDF
	ASQA Fact Sheet – Sample AQF Documentation	PDF
	Australian Industry Skills Councils (AISC) <a href="https://www.employment.gov.au/AISC">https://www.employment.gov.au/AISC</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
	National Register <a href="https://training.gov.au/">https://training.gov.au/</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
	National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) <a href="https://www.education.gov.au/international-students/get-your-overseas-qualification-or-skills-recognised-australia">https://www.education.gov.au/international-students/get-your-overseas-qualification-or-skills-recognised-australia</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
	Table 1.8-1: Principles of Assessment	PDF

Table 1.8-2: Rules of Evidence	PDF
Trades Recognition of Australia (TRA) <a href="https://www.tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au/">https://www.tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au/</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
Users' Guide to the Standards for RTOs 2015 <a href="https://www.asqa.gov.au/standards">https://www.asqa.gov.au/standards</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
VET Knowledge Bank - Glossary of VET <a href="https://www.voced.edu.au/vet-knowledge-bank-glossary-vet">https://www.voced.edu.au/vet-knowledge-bank-glossary-vet</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)
Unique Student Identifier Scheme (USI) <a href="https://www.usi.gov.au/">https://www.usi.gov.au/</a>	(Accessed 8/08/2020)

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