

Recognition of Prior Learning Policy

Purpose

The objective of the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) at AgForce Training is to ensure that an individual's prior learning achieved through formal and informal training, work experience or other life experiences is appropriately recognised.

National Assessment Principles

The principles governing the recognition of prior learning for AgForce Training are those specified in Principle 12 of the National Assessment Principles auspiced through the National Training Quality Committee:

1. Assessment processes at AgForce Training shall provide for the recognition of current competencies regardless of where these may have been acquired.
2. Recognition of prior learning at AgForce Training focuses on identifying the endorsed industry/enterprise competency standards currently held by individuals as a result of formal and informal training, not how, when or where the learning occurred.
3. Recognition of prior learning underpins any system of competency based training. It is essential that AgForce Training has a commitment to recognising the prior learning of individuals.
4. Recognition of prior learning shall be available to all potential applicants.
5. Recognition of prior learning at AgForce Training involves processes that are fair to all parties involved.
6. Recognition of prior learning at AgForce Training involves the provision of adequate support to potential applicants.

Objectives of Recognition of Prior Learning

With these principles providing a basis for action, the objectives of the Recognition of Prior Learning Policy at AgForce Training are:

1. To increase access to RPL by individuals in our Vocational Education and Training system.
2. At AgForce training will ensure that RPL is an integral component of an individual's eligibility for an award.
3. AgForce Training has implemented an RPL policy that is consistent with Principle 12 of the National Assessment Principles.
4. AgForce Training will ensure that our procedures for RPL incorporate a range of valid and reliable techniques designed to accurately assess competencies held.
5. AgForce Training promotes a 'non-traditional' (other than classroom/ workshop based) learning processes as valid pathways to competency achievement and recognised training outcomes.

Assessment Processes for Recognition of Prior Learning

The RPL assessment processes at AgForce Training are those specified in the National Assessment Principle 8:

Assessment

1. Assessment processes at AgForce Training will cover the broad range of skills and knowledge needed to demonstrate competency.
2. Assessment of competency AgForce training will be a process that integrates knowledge and skills with their practical application.
3. During assessment, judgments to determine an individual's competency should, wherever practicable, be made on evidence gathered on a number of occasions and in a variety of contexts or situations.
4. AgForce training assessment processes will be monitored and reviewed to ensure that there is consistency in the interpretation of evidence.
5. Assessment at AgForce Training will cover both the on and off the job components of training.
6. AgForce Training assessment processes will provide for the recognition of competencies no matter how, where or when they have been acquired.
7. AgForce Training assessment processes are made accessible to all individuals so they can proceed readily from one competency standard to another.
8. AgForce Training assessment practices are equitable to all groups of individuals.
9. AgForce Training assessment procedures and the criteria for judging performance will be made clear to all individuals seeking assessment.
10. At AgForce Training is a participatory approach to assessment. The process of assessment is jointly developed/agreed between the assessor and the assessee.
11. Opportunities will be provided to allow individuals to challenge assessments and provision is made for reassessment.

Risk Management and Quality Assurance

The extent of recognition sought may be up to one hundred per cent (100%). It is acknowledged that there is a higher risk associated with this degree of recognition. The amount of risk in the RPL process is directly related to the amount of evidence to be collected; the degree of rigour; the number of assessors to be used; and the costs of implementing RPL processes. The general principle AgForce Training observes is that:

- * As the level of risk increases there will be a corresponding increase in the rigour of the RPL processes. This increased rigour will be achieved through requiring more evidence of higher quality and the involvement of more assessors to review the evidence and make the final assessment decision.

Fees and Charges for RPL Services

In determining fees and charges for recognition of prior learning services, AgForce Training applies the principles of access and fairness under the AQTF.