

Policy Title

Recognition of Prior Learning Policy

Preamble

This policy is consistent with the following legislation and regulation:

- The Australian Qualifications Framework (2013)
- The Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021, Standard 1.2 Credit and Recognition of Prior Learning, 1.3 Orientation and Progression and 1.4 Learning Outcomes and Assessment.
- The Deakin University Assessment (Higher Education Courses) Procedure and the Deakin University Agreement (2017) (Schedule 6)
- Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000
- The National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018

Purpose

This policy outlines the provisions for granting course credit for recognised units of study at Deakin College, as well as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) awarded to eligible Deakin College students by Deakin University.

Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled in Deakin College's accredited award courses.

Policy

1. As an Australian Higher Education Provider, Deakin College offers opportunities for both domestic and international students to commence their tertiary education through an Foundation or Diploma course of study.
2. **Principles**
 - 2.1. The aim of the Recognition of Prior Learning Policy is to support students in progressing through award courses efficiently by recognising that they may achieve course component objectives through means other than formal study and assessment within the course.
 - 2.2. Deakin College will maintain the integrity of its courses and protect the academic standards and reputation of its awards. Recognition of prior learning will be granted only within the constraints of this principle.
 - 2.3. To obtain recognition of prior learning applicants must have acquired knowledge and skills align with the learning outcomes and assessment criteria of the qualification for which they are seeking exemption.
3. **Recognition for Prior Learning at Deakin College**
 - 3.1. **Admission**

- Admission to the College is based on Academic and English entry requirements as published in the College's prospectus and on the College website at <https://www.deakincollege.edu.au/>.
- Applicants will only be granted recognition of prior learning towards an award course at the College once they have gained admission to the relevant course of study. Applicants may also seek specific advice from the College prior to admission in relation to possible recognition of prior learning credits.

3.2. Recognition of Prior Learning

- Applicants or students at Deakin College may be granted specified recognition of prior learning towards a course where it relates to specific units or components. This exempts students from those units or components and awards the corresponding credit points. Specified recognition of prior learning may be awarded where applicants have achieved the objectives, acquired the knowledge, or developed the skills required by specific units or course components;
- Deakin College awards credit for units which are common to more than one Deakin College course, when a student moves from one course to another in accordance with the maximum credit transfer;
- Applicants or students of Deakin College, may be awarded credit for a maximum of half (50%) of the units to be undertaken within a course of study offered at the College. Where a unit has double credit points, the unit is counted as two units for the purpose of calculating 50% of units;
- All applications for the recognition of prior learning for Diploma courses are approved by Deakin University.

3.3. Application for Recognition of Prior learning

- Applicants are encouraged to apply for Recognition of Prior learning at least one (1) month prior to the commencement of their studies;
- Applications will not be considered where a unit of previous study for which the Recognition of Prior learning is sought was awarded a conceded pass grade, or equivalent;
- All applications must be submitted in the student's first trimester of study by the Census Date using the *Recognition of Prior Learning Application*;
- In the case of a student transferring to another Diploma, application must be submitted in the first trimester of the Diploma by the Census Date.
- All applications must be accompanied by original or certified official academic record e.g. Academic Transcript, Statement of Attainment, or Statement of Results;
- Where recognition of prior learning is being sought for prior learning on the basis of courses completed with recognised professional bodies, employers and other authorities, or for demonstrable expertise and relevant experience, appropriate certified samples of work must be submitted. Supporting documentation may include

references, samples of work, project briefs, reports, publications, employment history and position descriptions.

4. Recognition of Prior Learning at Deakin University

- 4.1.** Deakin College Graduates may apply for entry into Deakin University Courses in accordance with Deakin's relevant legislation, policies and procedures relating to admission and selection;
- 4.2.** Subject to English proficiency and availability of fee-paying places Deakin may offer places to successful Deakin College international students;
- 4.3.** Subject to any applicable Commonwealth legislation Australian students who successfully complete a Deakin College Diploma may seek admission to Deakin into a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP);
- 4.4.** Students who have completed a Diploma will be eligible to claim Recognition of Prior learning for:
 - eight (8) equivalent units in a Deakin University course where the Diploma is identified by Deakin University as appropriate;
 - up to eight (8) equivalent units in other Deakin University undergraduate courses;
 - Students who have completed additional Deakin College units will be eligible to claim Recognition of Prior learning for additional equivalent units in an appropriate Deakin University course.

5. Appeals

- 5.3.** Applicants are entitled to appeal a decision under this policy by submitting an *Appeal Application* to Deakin College Appeals, as per the *Appeals Policy*. The appeal must be lodged within twenty (20) working days from the date the decision was communicated to the student in writing.

6. Reporting of Exemptions Granted

- 6.1.** Deakin College is required to notify the Department of Home Affairs when credit is, or will be, granted to an overseas student towards an award course, where the granting of such credit results in a shortened duration of the course. The student will also be formally advised of the revised course duration.

Related Policies

Admissions Policy
Student Support Policy
Students at Risk Policy
Appeals Policy

Procedure

Admissions Procedure
Appeals Procedure
Recognition of Prior Learning Procedure

Definitions

For the purpose of this Policy the following definitions apply:

Key Term or Acronym	Definition
AQF levels	The Australian Qualification Framework level summaries are statements of the typical achievement of graduates who have been awarded a qualification at a certain level in the AQF. AQF levels graduate in complexity and depth of knowledge and skills from Levels 1 to 10
Articulation	A defined pathway that enables a student to progress from a completed course of study to another course of study with admission and/or credit.
Recognition of Prior Learning	Also referred to as recognition of Prior Learning, Recognition of Prior Learning can be used to support admission into a course where the applicant does not have the standard criteria for admission, or for applicants who have met the standard criteria for admission, to support exemption from the need to complete some relevant components of the course.
Diploma Course	Diploma course AQF level 5 is equivalent to first year of an undergraduate degree and enables successful students to proceed to second year study.
Exemption	Exemption is the term applied to all cases involving the granting of Recognition of Prior learning
Foundation course	Foundation Programs are nationally recognised preparatory courses that provide overseas students with a strong academic foundation for entry into Australian higher education undergraduate study.
Pathways	Allow students to move through Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) qualification levels with full or partial recognition for the completed course of study and/or learning outcomes they already have.
Prior Learning	<p>Within this Policy, Prior Learning means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> formal study undertaken in recognised institutions in Australia, including universities, colleges, TAFE colleges and other post-secondary education institutions; formal study undertaken in overseas institutions will be recognised to the extent to which they are considered to be equivalent to particular types of Australian institutions; formal study undertaken within Deakin College, in cases where a student chooses to articulate into another course at Deakin College; <p>And may extend under certain conditions to:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • courses provided by recognised professional bodies, employers and other authorities, where appropriate certification is available; and • demonstrable expertise and relevant experience.
WAM	A minimum Weighted Average Mark (WAM) of 50 is required by Deakin University for articulating Deakin College students articulating to bachelor degrees or as specified in Course Outlines for examples, 70 for a Deakin Bachelor of Laws (taking into consideration all units attempted).

Status and Details

Identification	Recognition of Prior Learning Policy
Initial Issue Date	19/04/2018
Status	Current
Domain	Learning and Teaching
Effective date	24/04/2025
Review date	30/07/2027
Approval Authority	Academic Board of Studies
Implementation Officer	Academic Director
Enquiries Contact	Jonathon Pura