


Category	Educational Programs	Policy Number	ACA-PRO-202	 مَامعة زَايد ZAYED UNIVERSITY
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Responsible Office	Provost	Policy Owner	PCO	
Date Approved	23 February 2024	Effective Date	23 February 2024	
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POLICY

Recognition of Prior Learning

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to demonstrate Zayed University’s commitment to meaningfully engage in Recognition of Prior Learning (“**RPL**”) activities as enabled through the UAE’s National Qualifications Authority (“**NQA**”) and the National Qualifications Framework (“**QF Emirates**”).

2. Scope of Application

This policy is applicable to all RPL applications for admission or credit equivalency, excluding inter-institutional transfer and transfer of credit from formally recognized education.

3. Definition

The NQA defines RPL as:

“the assessment of previously unrecognized skills and knowledge achieved outside the formal education and training system”. This is assessed against the requirements of a recognized qualification in terms of outcomes to be achieved. Learners will be awarded credit when they have demonstrated that they have successfully met the learning outcomes and assessment criteria of a unit.

4. Policy

4.1 Zayed University supports the principles embodied in the Recognition of Prior Learning (“**RPL**”) as enabled by the UAE National Qualifications Authority (“**NQA**”).

4.2 Candidates for entry to a program leading to a qualification or students seeking credit on the basis of formal and/or non-formal prior learning are entitled to fair consideration and assessment of their life-long learning achievements against the relevant competencies.

4.3 RPL applicants access the process by submitting an evidence-based portfolio of the prior learning to be assessed, consistent with NQA operational principles, to the Zayed University RPL Assessment Committee (“**Committee**”). The Committee,

which is composed of qualified assessors and is appointed by the Provost, is responsible for equitable and transparent assessment and validation of the applicants' portfolio. A positive outcome shall depend on the extent to which an RPL applicant has achieved the required competencies or standards for entry to, and/or partial completion of a Zayed University qualification or award.

4.4 No more than 25% of the total program credits will be awarded for any RPL application.

4.5 Fees will be assessed for RPL assessment.

5. Related Policies and Laws

N/A

6. Administration

This policy is administered by the Programs and Curricula Office.

7. Revision History

Date	Revision
23 February 2024	Reviewed with no substantive changes required. Approved by the Interim Provost (v.1.2).
26 January 2023	Administrative change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated the information header and policy numbers to be in line with the new format. • Updated the policy number from ACA-REG-04 to ACA-PRO-202.
17 January 2022	No substantive changes required at this time. Approved by the Provost (v.1.1).
16 June 2015	New policy by the University Council (v.1.0).