

Policy Title:	Recognition of Prior Learning
Policy ID:	2-210
Manual Classification:	Section 2 - Academic Affairs
Approved by Board of Governors	February 2023
Effective Date:	February 2023
Next Policy Review Date:	January 2026
Contacts for Policy Interpretation:	Executive Vice President, Academic and Student Experience

1.0 - Policy Overview

Fleming College supports recognition of relevant prior learning that may be applied towards a student's Fleming College credential. This Policy provides the framework for evaluating and granting recognition of prior learning in alignment with the Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT) and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU). This policy includes assessment of advanced standing, direct entry, articulation agreements, prior learning assessment recognition (PLAR), and transfer credit/course exemption.

2.0 - Purpose

This Policy and associated operating procedures provide the criteria for granting recognition for prior learning.

3.0 - Definitions and Acronyms

The following definitions and/or acronyms are referred to in this Policy:

Advanced Standing: Admission to an upper semester of a program of study where completion of course(s) from previous semester(s) are required.

Articulation Agreement: Official agreement between two (bilateral) or more (multilateral) post-secondary institutions that defines the terms and conditions enabling students to transfer between specific programs. May also determine which courses or programs taken at the sending institution will apply to graduation requirements at the receiving institution.

Credential: A credential is awarded by the Board of Governors for successful achievement of all requirements for the program of instruction.

Course Exemption: The waiving of a specific course requirement in recognition of a

student's prior learning.

Credit: Courses in programs of instruction eligible for funding through the general-purpose operating grant for which students, upon successful completion, receive a credit on their transcript.

Direct Entry: Direct admission to an upper semester of study based on a culmination of approved recognition of prior learning where no course(s) from previous semester(s) are required.

Post-Secondary Institution: An external institution recognized by Fleming College as a member of the provincial, national or international authority or another accrediting body as appropriate.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR): A process that uses a variety of tools to help learners reflect on, identify, articulate, and demonstrate past learning. Prior learning can be acquired through study, work, and other life experiences that are not recognized through formal transfer of credit mechanisms.

Residency Requirement: The minimum number of credits (or length of time) that must be taken through courses under the direct supervision of faculty of the credential issuing college.

Transfer Credit: A course taken at another recognized accredited post-secondary educational institution that is credited toward a program of study at Fleming College.

4.0 - Scope

This Policy applies to all Fleming College students who wish to obtain recognition for prior learning towards their Fleming College credential.

5.0 - General Principles

5.1 Fleming College will recognize prior learning in a fair, reasonable, and consistent manner by following the established process, eligibility requirements, and prescribed timelines as articulated in the following Operating Procedures:

- 2-210A Transfer Credit Operating Procedure;
- 2-210B Articulation Agreements Operating Procedure; and
- 2-210C Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) Operating Procedure.

5.2 Fleming College will only recognize prior learning for a credential once to avoid duplication. Once assessed and used once, a prior learning experience can not be subsequently used for additional recognition of prior learning.

- 5.3 A student may apply for recognition of their prior learning in accordance with the relevant residency requirement determining full-time or part-time status as described in 2-201B Registration and Withdrawal Policy.
- 5.4 Fleming College reserves the right to determine eligibility requirements for recognition of prior learning and recognizes that some programs have program/course-specific restrictions or additional requirements.
- 5.5 Decisions regarding recognition for prior learning can be appealed as outlined in the Operating Procedures 2-210A-C.

6.0 - Related Documents

- Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer – About Transfer
- *Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities Credit Transfer Policy January 2011*
- OP 2-210A Transfer Credit Operating Procedure
- OP 2-210B Articulation Agreements Operating Procedure
- OP 2-210C Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) Operating Procedure

7.0 - History of Amendments/Reviews

Date	Activity
September 1994	Original approval
February 2010	Reviewed and revised
June 2019	Reviewed and revised
February 2023	Reviewed and revised