

COLLEGE POLICY: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

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Manual Classification:	Academic Affairs
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Administrative Contact for Policy	Vice President Academic Experience
Interpretation:	
Linked to an Operating Procedure:	#2-210 OP

Policy Statement

Fleming College recognizes and accredits the value of skills and knowledge attained through prior work, volunteer, life and / or academic experiences through the Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) process.

Purpose

This policy and associated procedure establishes the PLAR process which involves the identification, documentation, assessment, verification, and recognition of relevant knowledge and skills acquired through formal and informal study, work, and life experiences. The relevant learning is assessed and evaluated against the learning outcomes of the student’s course and / or program. PLAR differs from the transfer credit process, in that PLAR focuses on the evaluation of experiential learning.

Scope

Fleming College adheres to the principles underlying PLAR in compliance with the Minister’s Binding Policy Directive (dated July 31, 2009) entitled *Framework for Programs of Instruction, Part D, section V*, which states:

“Prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) is to be made available for as many credit courses as possible in programs of instruction in which enrolment is eligible for funding through the general purpose operating grant. If a credit course is to be excluded from PLAR, the reasons and considerations should be clearly documented for the student. Information on the PLAR process is to be made available to the public in the college central admissions publication and posted on the college’s web site.”

Definitions/Acronyms

PLAR Applicant: A student applying through PLAR to gain credit for learning acquired through prior work, life and / or academic experiences.

PLAR: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition is a process whereby the applicant demonstrates acquisition of necessary skills and achievements equivalent to course credit that is not otherwise recognized through standard post-secondary transfer credit processes.

Residency Requirement: The number of PLAR/transfer credits will be limited by the residency requirement which states that at least 25 percent of the instruction hours required in a program of study must be completed at the College.

PLAR Assessor: The faculty assigned by the Academic Leader (Dean / Academic Chair or designate) to create and assess the PLAR submission who have expertise in the discipline and / or course content as applicable

Ontario College Credential: Ontario College Certificate, Diploma, Advanced Diploma, and Graduate Certificate Programs.

General Principles

- 1.1. Whenever possible, maximum recognition of prior learning will be given to eligible applicants.
- 1.2. For all post-secondary credential programs at Fleming College, no more than 75 percent of a program of study can be obtained through PLAR processes.
- 1.3. Timelines for completing PLAR processes shall be prescribed but vary based on factors including, but not limited to, availability of faculty subject expert(s) and / or access to appropriate testing facilities.
- 1.4. Fees for processing PLAR applications will be levied.
- 1.5. Not all courses are eligible for PLAR consideration. It is the applicant's responsibility to review the course outline to confirm course eligibility for the PLAR process
- 1.6. PLAR assessment methods shall be determined by the appropriate subject matter expert from the applicable program area.
- 1.7. Sanctions for academic integrity infractions apply to PLAR assessments.
- 1.8. Decisions regarding PLAR may be appealed.

Related Documents

PLAR Operation Procedure 2-210 OP

Appendices

N/A

History of Amendments/Reviews

Section(s)	Date	Comments
New Policy	Created 1994	
Revised	June 2019	Approved by SMT