

COLLEGE POLICY: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

Policy ID:	#2-210 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition
Approved by Executive Leaders Team:	<i>Original:</i> 1994
Current Review Date:	November 2023
Effective Date:	November 2023
Next Review Date:	2026
Administrative Contact for Procedure Interpretation:	Associate Dean

Policy Statement

Fleming College Toronto 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 establish 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.

Definitions and Acronyms

The following definitions and acronyms apply to this policy and its linked procedures:

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

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.

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

PLAR Assessor: The faculty or Program Manager assigned by the Academic Director (or designate) to create and assess the PLAR submission who has expertise in the discipline and / or course content as applicable.

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.

Scope

Fleming College Toronto 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 website.”

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 Toronto, 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 Program Managers, subject expert(s) and / or access to appropriate testing facilities. Fees for processing PLAR applications will be levied.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 PLAR assessment methods shall be determined by the appropriate subject matter expert from the applicable program area.
- 1.6 Sanctions for academic integrity infractions apply to PLAR assessments.
- 1.7 Decisions regarding PLAR may be appealed.

Related Documents

Administrative Operating Procedure 2-210: *PLAR*

History of Amendments and Reviews

Date	Activity
1994	Originally Approved
2010	Reviewed and updated
2019	Reviewed and updated
2023	Reviewed and updated