Recognition for skills you have is a process in which previous training, experience and knowledge are assessed against a qualification:

Recognition for industry experience
If you have current or recent experience working in an industry area or occupation relevant to the qualification you may apply for recognition.

You must be able to show proof of current or recent experience within the last two years in the relevant industry area. In some cases you may be eligible to complete the qualification without undertaking formal study or training.

For some qualifications there may be the opportunity to undertake a challenge test to demonstrate your skills.

You may also have developed valuable skills by working for a community or voluntary organisation, or through other life experiences such as hobbies, sport and leisure activities and this experience can also be considered for recognition.

Recognition for previous training
If you already have formal qualifications from a TAFE, university, school or another Registered Training Organisation in Australia, they may be relevant to the qualification you wish to study and you can apply for recognition.

If you hold qualifications gained overseas, TAFE Western will carefully consider them in the recognition process.

How much recognition can I have?
Depending on your skills, experience and knowledge, and the evidence you are able to provide, it is possible to gain recognition for the full qualification. You may also apply for individual units.

The benefits of applying for recognition
If you choose to achieve your qualification through recognition you are given credit for what you already know and can demonstrate which will reduce your formal training time. The extent to which you reduce your training time will vary according to whether you are able to achieve a full qualification through a recognition process.

Other benefits of the recognition process include:
> less time undertaking formal study – you do not need to relearn what you already know.
> an increase in self-esteem – you may get a qualification for your current skills and knowledge.
> a skills gap training plan will be developed to support you to achieve the full qualification if required.

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Evidence of skills, or training

TAFE Western will put you in touch with a recognition expert who can help guide you through this process and help to identify the evidence you can provide based on your experience.

In order to claim recognition you will be required to demonstrate your skills or previous training by submitting evidence to support your claim. This can include (but is not limited to) evidence such as:

- Certificates for relevant formal qualifications previously achieved through TAFE, university or a registered training organisation in Australia. If you hold qualifications gained overseas, TAFE NSW will carefully consider them during the recognition process.
- Statements confirming previous professional development and training undertaken.
- A portfolio of documents confirming work tasks you have undertaken.
- Evidence of previous work experience including items such as your resume or CV’s or statements from third parties and, or workplace supervisors.

Cost of recognition for a qualification

If you are currently enrolled with TAFE Western as a student, there is no charge to apply for recognition for your course.

Government subsidised courses

If the course is subsidised by the NSW Government under Smart and Skilled eligibility criteria will apply and you will be provided with a quote for the course fee.

If the course is not on the NSW Skills List or you are not eligible for a Government subsidised place, you can still complete the recognition process.

You will need to pay an application fee, and when you have submitted your initial evidence and undertaken your Recognition Interview, you will be provided with a quote to achieve the qualification.

The fees will vary, depending on the qualification and the amount of recognition you can achieve and there are fee instalment plan options to help you pay the course fee.

Talk to us

If you are thinking of undergoing the recognition process, talk to us and we will send you a Candidate RPL Information and Self Assessment Kit. You can also find out whether:

- you are eligible for Smart and Skilled funding and the cost of enrolling.

OR, if you are not eligible,

- the cost for submitting an application for the qualification you are seeking and the cost for 100% recognition of the full qualification.

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courseinfo.western@tafensw.edu.au

Live Chat: tafewestern.edu.au

In person: At your local college