



Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Introduction

Recognition of Prior Learning or RPL is designed to allow those involved in swimming that already have skills, knowledge and understanding gained from continuous learning in the sport or other sports to achieve qualifications without the need to attend formal taught courses.

What is Recognition of Prior Learning?

RPL is a method of assessment that considers whether a learner can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirement for a whole qualification or individual unit through skills, knowledge or understanding that they already possess and do not need to develop through a course of learning.

This means that learners can be assessed against current qualification criteria taking in to account their previous qualifications and teaching experience.

Importantly it must be noted that RPL is not a short cut to qualifications as you must achieve the same standards and criteria as those learners attending a taught course. This means that you must have significant experience before considering applying for this method of assessment.

How does it work?

1. All learners are initially assessed by completing a RPL (recognition of prior learning) questionnaire to check their knowledge, skills and training in teaching both in swimming and other areas for sports and education.
2. If potential RPL is identified for a learner booked on a course, this will be followed up with the learner either prior to the course or during course as appropriate.
3. The application will be referred to a tutor for review. If your application is appropriate for RPL we will contact you confirming the fee payable.
4. Once payment has been received you will be given the contact details of your tutor. You should contact them to arrange to start on your programme. Your tutor will discuss with you suitable methods of working, assessment methods and requirements.
5. Communication and assessment may include the following:
 - Telephone discussion
 - Skype
 - Theoretical questions
 - Scheme of Work/Session overview
 - Teaching lesson plans and analysis
 - Observations visits to your workplace
 - Portfolio evidence
 - Professional development record
6. In order to meet the requirements of the practical criteria outcomes, you will be required to complete practical teaching lesson plans as appropriate. You therefore need to be teaching either in a paid or voluntary basis to undertake this programme with a range of abilities where classes must have at least 8 swimmers.
7. If you achieve the required standard for all the qualification or unit criteria you will be awarded credit for the unit or qualification certification with the relevant awarding organisation.



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8. If you do not achieve the required standard your tutor will give you feedback on the areas you need to develop. You will then be required to resubmit your work to be reassessed (see below).

What if I am not deemed competent?

Applying for RPL does not automatically guarantee that you will be awarded your unit or qualification. You are required to meet the same criteria and standards as those attending a formally taught course.

Where the tutor agrees that there are only a few pieces of evidence or criteria that need to be worked on you may pay for additional tutor time as per the current rate.

Where the tutor feels that you do not have the experience or knowledge to meet the required standard of the qualification you will be directed to attend a specific course.

How much does it cost?

Qualification Title/Package	Cost	Total tutor hours allocated
Level 1 Swimming Assistant (Teaching)	£375	6 hours
Level 2 Swimming Teacher	£650	9 hours
Combine Level 1 Swimming Assistant (Teaching) & Level 2 Swimming Teacher	£900	12 hours
Additional tutor time per hour	£50	1 hour

The initial package is fully inclusive of the following:

- Tutor's time for assessment, professional discussions, visits etc;
- Current awarding organisation registration fee;

Package prices are calculated based on expected tutor/assessment time. Any additional tutor time required would be charged at £50 per hour:

- Practical visit – 1.5 hours
- RPL, face to face and phone calls – 1 hour
- Assessment – 1 hour

It is unlikely that learners will be able to apply for RPL against a complete Level 3 or Level 4 qualification. RPL for an individual unit may be available. This will be reviewed and explored through the initial application process and induction on to the relevant programme.

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