



Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Introduction

Recognition of Prior Learning or RPL is designed to allow those involved in swimming that already have experience, 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.

This is an assessment only method and no teaching is available on this route.

If you have no or limited teaching experience we recommend that you complete a full face to face course.

How does it work?

1. All learners are initially assessed by completing a RPL (recognition of prior learning) questionnaire and submitting pre-requisite qualifications to check their knowledge, skills and training in teaching both in swimming and other areas for sports and education. Some programmes are subject to an initial assessment fee.
2. If accepted on the programme you will be required to make payment of the relevant RPL fee prior to any further assessment taking place.
3. You will be required to send assessment evidence in a suitable format to your assessor which includes (dependant on the qualification):
 - a. Video recordings of your teaching.
 - b. Theory questions
 - c. Portfolio documents eg lesson plans (depending on the qualification you have applied for)
 - d. Professional discussion

You will be advised of the exact content of the portfolio to be submitted once payment has been received.

4. In order to meet the requirements of the qualification in particular practical aspects it is essential that you check the learning outcomes carefully before submitting your work for assessment. Any shortfall in requirements may lead to additional costs
5. If you meet the required standard for the qualification(s) you have applied for the results will be forwarded to the relevant awarding organisation for certification.
6. If you do not achieve the required standard your assessor 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) or you may be recommended to attend a full face to face course.



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

Where the assessor 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 face to face course.

How much does it cost?

Qualification Title/Package	Cost
Swim England Level 1 Swimming Assistant (Teaching)	£300
Swim England Level 2 Teaching Swimming	£550
Combined Swim England Level 1 Swimming Assistant (Teaching) & Level 2 Teaching Swimming	£700
Qualifi Level 2 units??	£60
Qualifi Level 3 Certificate in Teaching Swimming and Aquatics	£750
Qualifi Level 4 Diploma in Leading and Developing Teaching Swimming and Aquatic Programmes	£900
Additional assessor time per hour	£50

The initial package is fully inclusive of the following:

- Assessor's time for assessment and professional discussion;
- Current awarding organisation registration fee;

Package prices are calculated based on expected assessor/assessment time. Any additional assessor 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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How to apply for RPL

Applications for RPL are made through Survive and Save Training [website](#) and will be reviewed on completion of an [RPL/Initial Assessment Form](#), submission of pre-requisite qualifications and payment of initial assessment fee.

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