

NOTE: For the purpose of this document the term “The Company” refers to Toowoomba Regional Group Apprenticeship Company Pty Limited, Downs Group Training and DGT

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING STATEMENT

Definition

Recognition of prior learning, also referred to as RPL, is the formal acknowledgement of a person's current skills and knowledge, no matter how, when or where the learning occurred.

This is an important assessment pathway, particularly for people who are considering doing some study. The recognition gained may considerably reduce the study time needed to get a qualification.

RPL is a process that should take place at the commencement of a person's training, apprenticeship or traineeship and it can take place throughout the training program.

The RPL assessment may include workplace observation, interviews and professional conversations, work samples and documented evidence.

Objectives and Assessment of RPL

To ensure

- an individual's prior learning and/or current competencies are appropriately recognised
- RPL is an integral component of the assessment of an individual's eligibility for an award/certificate
- assessment of such competencies for the purpose of RPL is valid, reliable, flexible and fair
- assessment processes cover the broad range of skills and knowledge needed to demonstrate competency.

To promote 'non-traditional' (other than classroom/workshop based) learning processes as valid pathways to competency achievement and recognised training outcomes.

Assessment

RPL assessment of competency integrates knowledge and skills with their practical application. During assessment, judgements to determine an individual's competency are, wherever practicable, made on evidence gathered on a number of occasions and in a variety of contexts or situations.

Assessment processes will be monitored and reviewed to ensure consistency in the interpretation of evidence and equality to all groups of individuals.

Risk Management and Quality Assurance

The extent of recognition sought may be up to one hundred per cent. The Company acknowledges that there is a higher risk associated with this degree of recognition. The amount of risk in the RPL process is directly related to the amount of evidence to be collected, the degree of rigour required, the number of assessors to be used, and the costs of implementing RPL processes.