

**NISQ D15**

**Recognition of Prior Learning Policy**

NISQ reserves the right to revise this Policy from time to time.

1. **Policy Scope**
   1. Learners can apply for Recognition of Prior Learning to the Approval Panel of NISQ on the NISQ 66 Applying for Recognition of Prior Learning, this panel deliberates and considers all information relating to Recognition of Prior Learning in respect of a Regulated Qualification and its components NISQ has made available and appears on the Ofqual Register of Regulated Qualifications.
   2. Learners do not have to use Recognition of Prior learning, but if the learner wishes to apply for it they must supply the NISQ Approval Panel with supporting documentation evidence for their Prior Learning as is deemed reasonable by the Approval Panel.
   3. Recognition of Prior Learning cannot be used for the NISQ Written Invigilated Examinations and in relation to Learning outcomes set against set criteria.
2. **Recognition of Prior (RPL) Learning an Explanation**
   1. RPL relates to a learner’s earlier learning experiences and achievements with or without regulated certification, “Certified Learning” or “Experiential Learning” which can be recognised as part of a NISQ Regulated Qualification, that a learner can produce evidence for. The NISQ Approval Panel will review the learners evidence to decide if the learner has met the assessment requirements for the NISQ Regulated Qualification. This is done through Knowledge, Understanding or skills they already have developed within the specific subject matter to the standard required by the Regulated Qualification.
   2. This does not mean that RPL can be used as an exemption or called an exemption, as this would normally be specified by NISQ, for example as an entry requirement to a NISQ Regulated Qualification.
   3. The Evidence Provided must be;
3. Relevant,
4. Reliable,
5. Original,
6. Sufficient,

All of which must be able to be Validated.

1. **Past Experiences Count**
   1. NISQ recognises that adult learners have a variety of life experiences from a variety of backgrounds. This may include such evidence as;

* Professional Internal Training – Public and Private Bodies
* Expert Witness Support – Letters or Reports
* Recognition for Good Conduct or Work
* Reports from employers
* Work Experience, reports written, plans, presentations
* Portfolios of Works
  1. The material and evidence supplied to the NISQ Approval Panel will be assessed against the units, modules or disciplines the learner is applying RPL for.

1. **Applying for Recognition of Prior Learning**
   1. NISQ would like to inform learners that it fully respects all of life’s adult learning experiences and considers them all as being valuable, however they may not fulfil the points made in 2.3. There is a Fee for the purpose of applying for RPL. NISQ 06 The Fees Explained
   2. Application Pathway -

Process of Claiming Explained, the support available, length of process, how to appeal, Fees.

Insure the RPL NISQ 66 evidence is in place before start of Qualification,

Register the Learner NISQ 12, have Learner Consider or reflect on past experiences

NISQ Qualification Division discusses the process for RPL - before Registration

Learner contacts NISQ regarding Registration – RPL

Learner informed as to route of Appeal –

Appeals for RPL Process, Fees Apply

Complaints Process Explained – NISQ 23 application Form, NISQ D7 Complaints Policy

Following the Outcome – Learner Informed in writing,

1.RPL Application Accepted – Amount of RPL is outlined – Units/components to be awarded.

2.RPL Application – requires further Evidence – or the Learner must complete either all, or certain units, component parts.

3.RPL application is Rejected.

All Evidence Submitted is deliberated over and assessed against the relevant component, all the assessment Criteria, the subject matter, the level of Qualification,

All evidence documented by NISQ

NISQ Approval Panel Outcome -

RPL application form is completed, all evidence collected, presented before the NISQ

**Approval Panel,**

**Members made up from**

2 x Advisory and Review Committee members

2 x Persons from Qualifications Division NISQ

NISQ Director Qualifications Division is Chair