

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) policy

Scope

Application for RPL can be made by centres to internally assess parts of CFIs regulated and self-regulated qualifications.

Centres using RPL must have an internal policy outlining the process and appropriate resources to do so.

When used extensively, the Crossfields EQA must be notified, and the process agreed in advance.

What is RPL?

RPL is a process that considers whether a learner's prior learning and achievements can demonstrate that they are able to meet the assessment requirements for part of a qualification through their knowledge, understanding and/or skills that they already possess and do not need to develop through a course of learning.

The evidence produced by the learner must be fully assessed by the centre and have a clear audit trail of the assessment activity, assessment decisions and feedback to the learner.

RPL is not usually used to provide evidence against an entire qualification; this would be an exemption or transfer of credit.

Centre staff must be competent in carrying out RPL.

Crossfields policy

Centres who wish to use RPL should present their RPL policy to the Crossfields EQA for scrutiny and approval before the process commences and must meet the following:

- Methods of assessment used in the RPL process must be appropriate to what is being assessed with existing evidence being mapped against the relevant learning outcomes/assessment criteria
- The whole RPL process must be transparent, rigorous, and reliable using assessment methods that are fit for purpose and relate to evidence of learning and skills as appropriate
- It must be learner-centred with appropriate advice and guidance given by the assessor of the centre
- RPL assessment must be scrutinised through the IQA process and be a part of the centre's overall IQA strategy