



Recognition of Prior Learning for Learners



A Guide to how RPL can support your Journey through UCD

Recognition of Prior Learning

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a process by which your prior learning (PL) is formally valued. It is a means by which prior learning is assessed and recognised by UCD as part of their programmes and/or modules in the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). This eliminates the duplication of learning, meaning Learners can potentially complete the programme quicker and at a reduced cost. Further information on RPL activity in UCD can be found here [ucd rpl webpage](#).

Types of RPL	Formal Learning which has been acquired through a module or programme on a NFQ and has earned ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System).	Non Formal Planned, structured learning not leading to credits on a NFQ e.g.in-house company training.	Informal Knowledge, skill and competence acquired through day-to-day unplanned and unstructured activities, e.g., working, volunteering & caring activities.
What can I use RPL for?	Admission PL may be used to apply for admission onto a programme where entry requirements may not be fully met.	Credit/Exemption PL may be used to gain credit or exemption from modules. The Learner must demonstrate UCD Learning Outcomes for the requested module have been met.	Advanced Entry PL may be used to gain admission to Stage 2 of a programme. External Transfer would be an example.

How can I apply for RPL?

RPL for **Admissions** is through the standard UCD application process see [UCD applications](#) for further information.

RPL for **Credit/Exemption** is through the online tool see [RPL for C/E](#). Note some Colleges/Schools use an alternative application form – these are identified in the link above.

RPL for **Advanced Entry** is through the standard UCD application process see [UCD applications](#) for further information.

What next?

Research your options in UCD – link to [UCD Course Catalogue](#). Review module descriptors and Learning outcomes [UCD Learning Outcomes](#)

Gather your [supporting documentation](#) and submit your application.

Liaise with the relevant College/School/ Programme point of contact re **assessment** and **outcome** of your application.