

Recognition of Prior Learning Factsheet

REGISTERED NURSE DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP (RNDA) R43

If you have prior learning completed at the same academic level as OU modules, we may be able to award you credit exemption towards an OU apprenticeship programme: this could reduce the number of OU modules you have to study to complete your apprenticeship programme. You need to decide which apprenticeship programme you wish to study for with us before you can apply for recognition of prior learning (RPL).

Types of RPL offered for this programme:

RPCL – Recognition of prior certificated learning (credit transfer)

This factsheet tells you about RPCL (credit transfer) into this particular OU programme.

Please note that:

- The deadline for applying for credit transfer for this professional programme is earlier than the standard Open University final date for credit transfer applications advertised on the Credit Transfer website: <https://credit-transfer.open.ac.uk>. Please see the 'Your Educational Qualifications Awarded at Higher Educational level' section of the Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship application form for the deadline in which you must submit your credit transfer application to this programme.
- We can only confirm how much credit you can be awarded once you have made a formal application which has been considered by an OU assessor.
- Your prior learning must be at the same academic level. For RPCL (credit transfer), your prior learning must carry at least as many Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CATS) points, as the OU study from which you are to be exempted. More details about CATS points and levels can be found on our website at www.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer.
- We will award you as much credit as possible, but the amount of credit you can be awarded depends on several factors (such as the number of credits you have already achieved and how closely your prior learning

matches the learning outcomes of the OU modules and the criteria of the apprenticeship standard).

- Confirmation of the duration of the apprenticeship programme following an award of RPCL will be subject to a discussion with the OU Wellbeing, Education and Language Studies (WELS) Professional Programmes Team, who will advise on the potential impact of RPL (credit transfer).

RPCL (credit transfer) towards the Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship (Programme Code: R43)

Please note that any award of credit transfer towards this qualification does not guarantee acceptance onto the programme. For further advice about entry to the qualification, please contact your staff tutor in your local National/Regional Centre **before** submitting your credit transfer application.

Maximum RPL available towards this qualification

The maximum number of credits that can be awarded towards this programme are shown in the table below. The actual number of credits that you are awarded will be determined when your application for RPCL (credit transfer) has been assessed and may be less than the maximum shown below. Towards this programme, credit is awarded in multiples of 60 credits. Credit for RPL cannot be awarded against the final stage of the programme and the end point assessment for the apprenticeship programme.

Total number of credits required for this qualification	360 credits
Maximum RPCL (credit transfer)	180 credits
Minimum number of OU credits to be completed if awarded the maximum RPCL total	180 credits

Age of prior learning

RPCL (credit transfer) – For this qualification, we can consider previous health and/or social care related study completed up to 5 years ago, or up to 10 years at the discretion of the Academic Committee. We will calculate the age of previous study using the date we receive your completed application with all required supporting evidence. If your study is between 5 and 10 years old and eligible to be considered, you may need to complete an exceptional permissions form. The

Professional Programmes team will notify you if this is the case.

We will calculate the age of your prior learning using the date we receive your completed application with all required supporting evidence.

Prior learning for which you could be awarded RPCL (credit transfer)

You can apply for RPCL (credit transfer) towards this OU programme if you have any of the eligible prior learning shown on our website www.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer that was completed at undergraduate level (or above). Undergraduate level in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is Level 4 or above, Scotland level 7 or above, and in the Republic of Ireland, level 6 or above. Study completed at FHEQ L3, RQF L3, QCF L3, SCQF L6 and NQF L5 (equivalent or below) cannot be transferred to this programme.

How much credit you are awarded is likely to depend in part on how closely the subjects of your prior learning match the learning outcomes of the OU modules and the criteria of the apprenticeship standard. If your prior learning is in an unrelated subject area, we will not be able to award you RPL (credit transfer) towards this programme. To read about the subjects covered in this programme visit the [programme description](#).

What do I need to provide with my application?

Every application for RPCL (credit transfer) must be supported by official evidence, usually in the form of an academic transcript and a certificate. Please see the application form for more information about the additional evidence you will need to provide for this programme. Please do not submit your RPCL application until you have all the evidence and completed forms required.

Holders of a completed Foundation degree or Level 5 qualification that leads to NMC registration as a Nursing Associate, who have live NMC Registration – you will only need to submit your credit transfer application, along with your Foundation degree or Level 5 qualification certificate. Later the OU Professional Programmes Team will email you an additional form which will capture your practice hours and NMC PIN.

If you are a holder of an Assistant Practitioner qualification (normally a Foundation degree/FHEQ L5 award), which has been achieved via an apprenticeship, you will only need to provide your apprenticeship certificate with the title 'Assistant Practitioner' and your accompanying academic transcript for your Foundation degree (which may not include 'Assistant Practitioner' in the title). Later the OU Professional programmes Team will email you an additional form which will capture your practice hours.

Holders of other types of prior learning – you will need to submit your credit transfer application form, an official academic transcript, learning outcomes/syllabus information for your prior learning and a completed RPL form. This is so the academic assessor can map how closely your prior learning matches the learning outcomes of the OU modules in the qualification. Your academic transcript will provide a list of the modules or units you completed, but syllabus information/learning outcomes provide a detailed description of the content of each of those modules, often about a paragraph per module/unit. Unfortunately, we are unable to carry out an assessment without this information.

How to apply?

To apply for RPCL (credit transfer) you will need to download the OU Credit Transfer (RPCL) form from the Apprenticeship Application Portal, complete it, sign it, and upload it with your official evidence as outlined above. You will also need to complete the relevant Professional Programmes specific credit transfer form based on what your previous study was.

Unique study

For each OU programme, you must include an amount of OU study that is unique to that particular programme (credit from study completed at the OU which has not previously been counted towards another OU programme). Full details are given in the Regulations section of the [programme description](#).

Further information you will need

You should read this RPL factsheet in conjunction with the [programme description](#) which

- contains the regulations specific to this OU programme
- gives information on the structure of your chosen OU programme

If you require a version of these notes in an alternative format, such as large print, please contact us credit-transfer@open.ac.uk

This factsheet has been prepared by the Credit Transfer Centre at The Open University.

If you would like to discuss your application for RPL please contact your Apprenticeship Programme Delivery Manager. Please note that they will be unable to advise you how much you could be awarded before your application has been formally assessed.

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