

RECOGNITION

1 The University of Law's Recognition of Prior Learning Policy has been informed by the Office for Students Sector-Recognized Standards and the General Ongoing Conditions of Registration and has regard to the UK Quality Code for Higher Education. These definitive reference points for all English higher education institutions set out how academic standards are established and maintained and how excellence in the quality of learning opportunities is assured.

This policy sits within The University of Law's Quality and Standards Code, which provides a suite of policies designed to safeguard the academic standards of The University of Law and to assure the quality of learning opportunities offered; this policy should therefore be read in conjunction with other relevant policies within the code.

Introduction

2 This policy sets out the expectations, key aims and principles, and procedural approach in relation to recognition of prior learning by the University of Law (the University). The University recognises that central to this policy is the University's responsibility for the academic standards of all awards granted in its name and the quality of learning opportunities for students.

Responsibility for this policy

3 Ultimate responsibility for the development of clear and effective processes and procedures associated with the maintenance of standards and quality assurance of academic provision and overseeing their application lies with the Academic Board.

Expectation

4 The University has in place equitable, valid and reliable processes of assessment, including for the recognition of prior learning, which enable every student to demonstrate the extent to which they have achieved the intended learning outcomes for the credit or other form of recognition being sought.

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relevant prior learning, the student has achieved the learning outcomes of the module(s).

17 Specific credits can only be mapped against entire modules and not against parts or fractions of modules.

18 The University may award *notional* credits where there is appropriate and sufficient evidence that, through relevant prior learning at an appropriate level, the student has successfully completed a course of study consistent with the overall programme learning outcomes, skills-based module learning outcomes and/or a significant number of the subject-related learning outcomes from various programme modules.

19 Students granted notional credits are required to complete any specified core elements of the relevant programme and may be restricted in their module choices to avoid content overlap.

20 For all of its programme awards, the University requires students to achieve at least 50% of the available credits through the standard programme learning and assessment arrangements; no more than 50% of a programme's credits may be gained through the recognition of prior learning unless specified otherwise in the programme regulations.

21 Where allowed by a PSRB, students may apply for exemption from study and assessment of programme modules. This process is different from recognition of prior learning. Any student obtaining exemption from study and assessment is not eligible for the programme award; to be eligible, a student must apply for and obtain recognition of prior learning.

22 Credits cannot be claimed against modules that a student has already registered for, and failed, previously. Additionally, modules where credits have been awarded through the recognition of prior learning process cannot subsequently be attempted in order to seek to improve the overall grade/classification.

23 Modules for which credits have been awarded on the basis of recognition of prior learning are recognised simply as qualifying modules for the award and do not contribute to the award grade or classification for that student. No grade is given to credits awarded for recognised prior learning.

24 Fraudulent claims for recognition of prior learning are regarded as malpractice and are followed through in accordance with the University's procedures thereon. The University reserves the right to withdraw any award made, or credits gained, as a result of such malpractice.

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25 The operation and impact of the recognition of prior learning policies are monitored and reviewed at regular intervals by the Academic Board and its sub-committees with an annual report made on any credits awarded and linked student progression.

26 Similarly, the criteria by which applications for recognition of prior learning are determined are reviewed regularly to ensure that they remain transparent and accessible.

27 Students may appeal against decisions regarding the award of credit for recognition of prior learning using the standard academic appeals process.

Responsibility for the provision

28 Responsibility for the effective implementation of Recognition of Prior Learning Policy lies with the Academic Board, operating through the Admissions sub-committee.

Monitoring and evaluation of the provision

29 Responsibility for reviewing and evaluating the effectiveness of Recognition of Prior Learning Policy lies initially with the Academic Registrar. Formal responsibility for monitoring and evaluation of this provision lies with the Academic Board.

