

5.0 Other services obtainable under the Centre for Prior Learning Assessment

5.1 Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT).

Credit transfer is the vertical, horizontal, or diagonal relocation of credits towards a qualification or part-qualification. It is possible to transfer credits if the courses done at a previous institution or same institution are comparable. This is done where the individual did not complete the programme at the previous institution and wants to complete it at BOU. The Credit transfer is considered when:

- The NCQF level of the courses is the same
- The notional hours are approximately the same
- At least 80% overlap of content is covered

A maximum of 50% of the credits can be transferred.

5.2 Exemptions

A student can be exempted from doing the courses that were sufficiently covered in the previous qualification. At most 40% of the programme's courses will be exempted.

6.0 Assessment

Assessment is conducted by subject experts. They include Assessors and Moderators (both internal and external).

The assessment can be in the form of a challenge exam, oral interview, compiling a portfolio of evidence or a project.

7.0 When to apply

Advert runs annually from September to January of the following year.

For full details check Botswana Open University website.



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Botswana Open University
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)



Inspire Tomorrow, Today

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

1.0 What is RPL?

It is a means through which formal, informal or non-formal knowledge can be assessed and recognised by a higher education institution.

2.0 Benefits of RPL

Gaining recognition for one's skills, knowledge and competences will enable candidates with experience to:

- Reduce the need to retrain in knowledge and skills already possessed.
- Know what skills they have developed through life and work experience and which of them will help them cope with programme demands.
- Have alternative route to access further training
- Benefit from a learning culture of valuing and recognising learning that is acquired in the workplace.

3.0 Purpose for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

i. RPL for Access

RPL provides an alternative access opportunity into programmes that you do not meet their entry requirements for. This is based on the assessment of relevant knowledge and skills gained through relevant work experiences.

ii. RPL for Credit

This applies to un-certificated relevant knowledge and skills gained through work experience. When that knowledge and skills meet the learning outcomes of a subject/course in a specific programme and is confirmed through formal assessment, it will be recognised and granted credit. This will lead to exemption.

4.0 Restrictions of RPL

Candidates cannot be assessed for prior learning for the entire qualification. For academic programmes, the candidate is given a maximum 40% RPL and is expected to complete the other 60% of the courses with the University.



**Botswana Open
University**

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