

Is it for you?

Continuing Care Assistant

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>What is PLAR?</p> | <p>Prior Learning Assessment (PLAR) is an evaluation through a valid and reliable process, by qualified specialist(s), of the knowledge and skills that have been learned through non-formal education, training or experience to determine the equivalency for credit to a SIAST course.</p> |
| <p>What can PLAR do for me?</p> | <p>PLAR reduces redundant learning and provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition for skills and knowledge acquired through prior learning • Portable credentials • Increased employment opportunities |
| <p>How do I know if I'm a candidate?</p> | <p>If you have successful work experience in the health care field and can provide evidence of your skills and knowledge to meet learning outcomes with the continuing care aide program, you may be a PLAR candidate.</p> |
| <p>What are the PLAR options?</p> | <p>You must be registered in a SIAST Continuing Care Assistant program to receive PLAR services. Admission standards for programs will still apply. See admissions policy in the SIAST calendar or website.</p> <p>Option A: Individual Course Challenge If you have previously learned the skills and knowledge for one or more of the continuing care aide courses, you may apply to be assessed for each applicable course.</p> <p>Option B: Block Practicum Assessment Experienced care workers who have completed all of the courses and have at least a minimum of 255 hours of related experiences, in the last two years, may challenge the 4 practicums PRAC 101 & 206 and PRAC 197 & 199 in one cumulative PLAR challenge.</p> <p>Option C: Program Level Certification Workers who meet the following criteria may challenge all courses in the Continuing Care Assistant program in one single challenge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have either the Home Care Certificate OR a Special Care Certificate and who want dual certification, OR • 2000 hours of recent, related experience and training that is not currently recognized as equivalent to the CCA program, may challenge all courses in the CCA program in one single challenge. |

Continuing Care Assistant - Continued

| | |
|---|--|
| How many courses are available by PLAR? | Currently we have 18 out of 21 courses with PLAR challenges available as well as a cumulative practicum challenge and program level certification. There is no limit to the number of courses that you can challenge. |
| When are PLAR challenges offered? | PLAR challenges are currently being offered throughout the year except for July and August. |
| How much does PLAR cost? | <p>To find fees for your course(s) visit the PLAR inventory database and select your program of study from the first dropdown list of programs or search the course name and code using the “keyword search” option.</p> <p>For assistance, call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.</p> |
| Are there methods other than PLAR to gain SIAST course credits for prior learning? | <p>Transfer Credit</p> <p>SIAST may grant a transfer credit for course(s) from a recognized credit-granting post-secondary educational institution. The training must be similar in content, objectives and evaluation standards to SIAST training.</p> <p>Major changes in program content may require that the student repeat or seek prior learning assessment recognition for the course for which transfer credit is requested.</p> <p>Any transfer credit agreements with this program are listed in the candidate guide.</p> <p>For specific information and guidelines regarding transfer of credit, contact a SIAST educational counsellor or refer to the SIAST website: http://www.siastr.sk.ca/stuservices/plar/transfer_credit.shtml</p> <hr/> <p>If your training does not qualify for credit transfer you may ask for a review of your learning through the PLAR process.</p> <p>Equivalent Course Credit</p> <p>The Continuing Care Assistant program may recognize credit for a specific SIAST course(s) on the basis of previous credit in another SIAST course(s) with similar content.</p> <p>If the curriculum no longer qualifies for equivalency, a student may request PLAR for the course(s) if additional learning has occurred to meet the change in the current learning outcomes.</p> |
| What do I need to prepare for a PLAR assessment? | Credit is earned for proven knowledge and skills. You will be assessed on your competence in the learning outcomes for each course. For more information on the learning outcomes, criteria, and the form of assessment please refer to the Continuing Care Assistant PLAR candidate guide & self-audit package. |
| How do I get started? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the 10-step PLAR process at http://www.siastr.sk.ca/stuservices/plar/PDF/10stepprocess.pdf 2. Call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the Continuing Care Assistant program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST. |