

Educational Assistant Certificate

<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 a minimum of one year successful experience within the last five years in the educational assistant field (K – 12 school system), and have learned the skills and knowledge for one or more of the educational assistant courses, you may apply to be assessed for each applicable course. Work experience through volunteer activity and substituting are not considered.</p>
<p>What are the PLAR options?</p>	<p>Course level challenge</p> <p>If you have a minimum of one year successful experience within the last five years in the educational assistant field (K – 12 school system), and have learned the skills and knowledge for one or more of the educational assistant courses, you may apply to be assessed for each applicable course. Work experience through volunteer activity and substituting are not considered.</p> <p>Block assessment</p> <p>If you have a minimum of two years successful experience within the last five years in the educational assistant field (K – 12 school system), and have learned the skills and knowledge for a block of related and cumulative courses, then you may be assessed on blocks of courses. Successful completion of the block assessment will result in credit for all classes associated with that block. Work experience through volunteer activity and substituting are not considered.</p> <p>A candidate guide has been developed for this program and is accessible through the program web page.</p>
<p>How many courses are available by PLAR?</p>	<p>All program courses are PLAR-ready. For a listing of the specific PLAR-ready course titles, check the Educational Assistant guide and/or the PLAR database.</p> <p>Some courses common to many programs at SIAST (i.e. communications, math, social sciences, and computer applications) are managed by Associated Studies Faculty. To see if the shared courses in your program are PLAR-ready, visit the "PLAR-ready Courses" link on the PLAR homepage for further details.</p> <p>For assistance call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the Educational Assistant program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.</p>

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<p>When are PLAR challenges offered?</p>	<p>PLAR challenges are currently being offered during the specified dates of September 1 – May 15.</p>
<p>How much does PLAR cost?</p>	<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>
<p>Are there methods other than PLAR to gain SIAST course credits for prior learning?</p>	<p>Transfer credit 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/siastr/admissions/transferecredit.htm</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> <hr/> <p>Equivalent course credit The Educational 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>
<p>What do I need to prepare for a PLAR assessment?</p>	<p>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 PLAR candidate guide & self-audit package.</p>
<p>How do I get started?</p>	<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 Educational Assistant program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.