

Water and Wastewater Technician Program

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| <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 four (4) or more years of current work experience as an operator in the water and wastewater field and can provide evidence of your skills and knowledge to align with learning outcomes within the Water and Wastewater Technician program, you may be a PLAR candidate.</p> <p>Eligibility criteria for this option are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have four (4) or more years of operating experience in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Class 2 or higher Water Treatment facility ○ Class 2 or higher Distribution System facility ○ Class 2 or higher Wastewater Collection facility ○ Class 2 or higher Wastewater Treatment facility • Hold current Operator Certification in one (1) or more of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water Treatment Class 2 Certificate ○ Water Distribution Class 2 Certificate ○ Wastewater Collection Class 2 Certificate ○ Wastewater Treatment Class 2 Certificate |
| <p>What are the PLAR Options?</p> | <p>PLAR challenges within the Water & Wastewater Technician program are offered at the course level.</p> |
| <p>How many courses are available by PLAR?</p> | <p>Specific program courses are PLAR-ready. For a listing of the specific PLAR-ready course titles, check the (Water and Wastewater Technician Program) candidate 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</p> |

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| | <p>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 with a PLAR advisor/counselor assigned to the Water and Wastewater Technician program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-gosiast.</p> |
| <p>When are PLAR challenges offered?</p> | <p>PLAR challenges are currently being offered ongoing throughout the year.</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 the Water and Waste Water Technician Program at: 306-694-3227.</p> |
| <p>Are there methods other than PLAR to gain SIAST course credits for prior learning?</p> | <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 the Water and Wastewater Technician Program at: 306-694-3227 or refer to the SIAST Website:</p> <p>http://www.siastr.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> |
| | <p>Equivalent Course Credit</p> <p>The Water and Wastewater Technician 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> |

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| 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 Water & Wastewater Technician PLAR candidate guide & self-audit package at http://www.siastr.ca/siastr/educationtraining/oncampusprograms/7266/5754/5851/index.shtml |
| How do I get started? | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review the 10-step PLAR Process at http://www.siastr.ca/siastr/admissions/plar.htm2. Call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counselor assigned to the Water and Wastewater Technician Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-gosiastr. |