RECOGNITION
OF PRIOR LEARNING

CHC30213 Certificate III in Education Support &
CHC40213 Certificate IV in Education Support

DEMONSTRATE EXISTING SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE
AND GAIN A QUALIFICATION.

Nationally Recognised Training

Fast Track Training Australia

Australian Qualifications Framework

RTO Code 52215
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What is RPL?
RPL or Recognition of Prior Learning is a way for students to have their existing skills and knowledge recognised by obtaining a Nationally Recognised Qualification. Experienced practitioners may already have an extensive breadth and depth of skills, knowledge and experiences that match the requirements of a qualification. If this is the case, there is no point in studying an entire course because that person already has sufficient knowledge and skills to be assessed. However, the candidate still needs to provide evidence of their skills and knowledge. The assessor then considers whether the evidence meets the requirements of each unit and provides feedback.

Am I eligible?
As a rule of thumb, we advise that candidates should have 3-5 years of recent experience as a teacher’s aide and are currently employed in a relevant role. For higher level course, we also prefer candidates to have completed at least one qualification, although this is not strictly necessary. Sometimes we can consider experience in other paid or volunteer roles such as child care.

How long does RPL take?
RPL generally takes one full day in the workplace with an assessor who will observe you and help you collect evidence, speak with your supervisor and ask you a range of questions. Preparation for this day takes at least 2-4 hours.

Do you run tutorials for RPL?
We regularly hold tutorial sessions for RPL candidates that are between 2-6 hours in length. These tutorials are a great way for you (and your colleagues) to work through the RPL requirements with the support of an experienced and friendly trainer.

What if there are parts that I don’t know?
You may come across questions where you do not know the answer off the top of your head. This is common and is nothing to worry about in most cases. You cannot be expected to know absolutely everything, all of the time, and to have a perfect memory. For example, different schools have different names for the same policy, system, program or resource. You may need to undertake gap training such as reading through a chapter of your learner guide or watching a webinar. This is outside the scope of the RPL program (as technically with RPL you already ‘know’ everything) however it is a free service that FTTA offer to everyone.

Do I still do assessments?
Yes. However, it isn’t as hard as you may think. As part of your RPL program, we need to collect evidence showing that you are competent (we can’t just assume you are competent based on your resume). This involves visiting you in the workplace to observe you undertaking certain tasks relevant to your work role. Some candidates can meet this requirement by submitting video evidence. There are also short answer questions and some other activities which are often completed in your own time. There are no essays, reports, large and extensive portfolios or other tedious, stressful or time-consuming requirements. We try to make the RPL process as smooth as possible, while ensuring the integrity of the process.

I have a friend who did RPL and they had to make a portfolio?
In the past we have also used the portfolio method for RPL. However, the portfolio method is very time consuming and involves a lot of back and forth between the candidate and the assessor. It is much easier and quicker to simply complete the assessments for each cluster and have it marked by an assessor. For individuals that are suitable RPL candidates (e.g. with 3-5+ years’ experience), the assessments are not that much
of a challenge. Our ‘Assessment only pathway’ means that you don’t have to collect large volumes of evidence, documents, attend multiple interviews and/or write out answers to hundreds of short answer questions.

How do I enrol?
The easiest and quickest way to enrol is via our online enrolment form. RPL candidates are generally required to submit 2-3 pieces of evidence to show that they are suitable for RPL. This means showing that you have experience or have done courses, PD or other activities in the past. People often submit a resume, payslips, a contract, certificates, email or reference from their teacher or any other documents attesting to their experience. You can upload these documents, with your ID, while completing the online enrolment form. This process helps us to provide you with the best possible advice specific to your situation.

I live in a rural area. Can I enrol?
In some cases, we can use video evidence in place of visiting you in the workplace. Obviously, this means having a supportive workplace supervisor who can approve and facilitate the collection of video evidence. However, we may be planning on visiting your area in the near future as we have enrolled students in many different locations. Speak to FTTA for the best advice regarding your current situation.