



LimeCulture Recognition of Prior Learning Policy

Purpose of This Policy

1. LimeCulture is an NCFE accredited Training Centre. As such, we operate several highly specialist Customised Qualifications for specific workforces that support victims/survivors of sexual violence, harm and abuse.
2. We recognise that learners working towards LimeCulture's Customised Qualifications may have existing knowledge, skills and learning within their field that may be relevant in meeting the assessment criteria for these qualifications.
3. This policy sets out when and how LimeCulture may recognise prior learning or attainment within our Customised Qualifications.

Definition

4. For the purposes of this policy, LimeCulture uses the NCFE definition of Recognition of Prior Learning, or RPL, as 'a method of recognising previous learning or attainment, which considers whether learners can demonstrate they meet the assessment requirements for an accredited course through knowledge, behaviour, skills and understanding they already possess, and so may not need to develop these through a course of learning'.
5. RPL can demonstrate competence or achievement within an individual module or a wider qualification.

Application of This Policy

6. This policy applies to all LimeCulture training programmes accredited by NCFE.
7. Given the specialist nature of LimeCulture's Customised Qualifications and the depth of content within individual modules in each qualification, the circumstances under which prior learning will be recognised under this policy are necessarily limited.

RPL: Eligibility to Participate in Continuing Professional Development Programmes

8. To be eligible to participate in LimeCulture's Continuing Development Programmes for Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVAs) and/or Sexual Violence Liaison Officers (SVLOs), learners must have completed a recognised, accredited ISVA or SVLO course qualification with either LimeCulture or an alternative provider.
9. Where the qualification has been completed through an alternative provider, it must be at the same level or above as the LimeCulture Customised Qualification to be eligible for Recognition of Prior Learning.
10. Learners do not need to apply for RPL in these circumstances. They will be asked to confirm in writing on booking the course that they have completed an appropriate programme.
11. A certificate of achievement from the relevant accrediting body will serve as evidence that such training has been completed – this should be provided by the learner to LimeCulture on request.

Applying for Recognition of Prior Learning

12. To apply for RPL within a LimeCulture Customised Qualification, a learner may submit a request in writing to LimeCulture at training@limeculture.co.uk.
13. The learner will need to demonstrate prior learning directly comparable to the course content and specific qualification provided by LimeCulture, enabling an equivalent assessment decision to be made.
14. Prior learning will not be recognised where:
 - it is similar to the assessment criteria but carried out at a lower level than the current programme;
 - it is not current in meeting the Customised Qualification;
 - it does not demonstrate the direct work of the learner.
15. Having worked in the field or having undertaken a qualification from another provider will not be sufficient in itself to qualify for RPL.

RPL Assessment Process

16. RPL applications will be assessed by LimeCulture's Head of Training (the Assessor), who will consider the evidence of a learner's previous achievement against the assessment criteria of each relevant module. The

Head of Training may also delegate this assessment to a LimeCulture Training Manager who is approved to assess the qualification concerned.

17. The Assessor will make the decision based on the following criteria:
- *validity* - does the evidence genuinely demonstrate that the demands of the assessment criteria have been met?
 - *authenticity* - is the evidence being assessed genuinely the work of the learner.
 - *sufficiency* - is there enough evidence to fully meet the requirements of the assessment criteria, or assessment criteria being considered?
 - *reliability* - is the evidence obtained through RPL such that an Assessor would arrive at the same assessment decision, were the assessment to be repeated?
18. The Assessor will ensure all assessment criteria being claimed are covered in the RPL assessment, and will maintain written records of the assessment process and decision to ensure the continuing robustness and integrity of the Customised Qualification, in line with LimeCulture's Internal Quality Assurance Strategy.

Outcomes

19. Where an individual can produce evidence that meets the assessment criteria requirements for the relevant Customised Qualification, recognition can be given for their existing knowledge, understanding or skills.
20. If an individual can meet all the learning outcomes and assessment criteria in a module, they can claim credit for that module solely on the basis of their RPL achievement. If evidence from RPL is only sufficient to cover one or more assessment criteria, or to partly meet the need of an assessment criterion, additional assessment methods will be employed to generate the sufficient evidence required to make a safe assessment decision.
21. LimeCulture will utilise the existing written assessment for the relevant Customised Qualification (or the relevant parts thereof) to enable this. Learners requesting RPL will be expected to undertake the assessment at the same time as the other learners on the relevant programme.

Impact on Course Fees

22. Recognition of Prior Learning relating to any modules within an accredited LimeCulture Development Programme or other course will not result in a fee reduction for the Customised Qualification.