

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) – Am I a Good Candidate?

Graduate Learner Self-Evaluation

APU PLA Program information: <https://www.apu.apus.edu/academic/degrees-and-programs/pla.html>

A. Basic Eligibility

1. I am a fully matriculated, active student (completed the APUS application and orientation process, possess a student ID number and are not on program hold or disenrolled).

Yes No

2. I have had all my previous academic experience evaluated by APUS (My TCE has been completed).

Yes No

3. Graduate PLA requires not only a demonstration of practical knowledge of the primary literature in the discipline, are you prepared to demonstrate knowledge of the theory and practice of the learning objectives in the course?

Yes No

4. I have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.

Yes No

5. I have not applied for graduation

Yes No

6. I am not registered for my capstone experience and understand that I must submit all portfolios prior to registering for my capstone experience.

Yes No

B. Additional Qualifications

1. I have not received college credit (undergraduate/graduate) for this prior learning.

Yes No

2. I have been in the workforce for at least five years after high school.

Yes No

3. I can relate my prior experiential learning to a specific APUS course. (Consider what you have learned from your jobs, professional training, participation in community service or other volunteer organizations, your pursuit of hobbies and special interests, etc.).

Yes No

C. To help you answer this question, refer to your degree path/Academic Plan and review the course description on the APUS website for the course listed.

1. I can document my learning.

Yes No

Examples of appropriate documentation include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Samples of your work
- b. Job descriptions
- c. Awards and commendations
- d. Descriptions of requirements for licenses and/or certificates
- e. Certificates of attendance and notes taken in training courses
- f. Transcripts
- g. Annotated bibliography
- h. Letters of verification from employers or others who have first-hand knowledge of your abilities
- i. Proof of membership in professional or trade organizations

2. My learning can be applied in situations other than the one in which it was acquired.

Yes No

3. A subject matter expert should be able to validate my learning.

Yes No

Note: You must answer “yes” to all questions in section A to be eligible to participate in the APUS PLA program. If you answer “yes” to questions in section B & C, it is likely that you are a good candidate for PLA.

Email pla@apus.edu with your student ID and either the answer to your challenge question or your last four for more information and an application. Please note, all learners must be pre-approved to participate in PLA. PLA credit award is based on demonstration of mastery of learning outcomes through experiential learning NOT on years of service or level of experience in a field.