Prior Learning Assessment Checklist

Is Prior Learning Assessment Right for You?

**Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)** is for adult learners who have gained significant experience or learning outside the traditional classroom that may be equivalent to college-level coursework. The relevant learning from past experiences is documented in a portfolio and is then evaluated by subject matter expert faculty.

PLA is a helpful process for busy adults to shorten the time to earning a degree and to reduce the expense of taking courses for knowledge that you may have already gained. Do you think that you have some college-level learning that you do not already have college credit for?

You could have acquired learning from a job, travel, volunteer work, or trainings you may have attended – where you learned it is not as important as what you’ve learned.

This self-assessment checklist is designed to help those who are interested in the Learning Recognition Course, but are not sure as to whether or not it’s a good match. If you can answer **Yes** to most of the following questions, then you would be a good fit.

- Am I comfortable writing? Can I express my ideas easily using complete sentences and paragraphs, good grammar, and correct spelling?

- Have I learned to do things that have become progressively more advanced or more complex? When I think about what I knew when I started working, can I see how much I have learned?

- Is the quality of my work equal to or better than my college educated coworkers who perform the same tasks I do, or have the same job description?

- Have I managed people?

- Have I used a variety of technologies in a variety of settings?

- Have I developed theories about how to handle a new situation that comes into my life? Can I explain them?

- After attending training or a workshop, do I apply what I have learned back in my usual situation?

- Are there people, such as previous supervisors or co-workers, who have witnessed my work and can verify it?

- Do I have documentation to support your learning such as: licenses, certificates, work samples, business plans, presentations, videos of previous performances, software code, musical compositions, etc?