

# Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – Candidate Information

The Australian Institute of Aquatic Bodywork (AIAB) supports students in applying for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). This process acknowledges your prior training, work experience, and life experience that relate to the competencies in your chosen course.

## What is RPL?

RPL gives you credit for skills and knowledge you already have, which may have been gained through:

- **Formal training:** School, TAFE, university, industry courses, in-service training
- **Work experience:** Skills gained on the job, informal workplace training
- **Life experience:** Family responsibilities, hobbies, volunteering, community involvement

## Why Apply?

You can consider applying for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) if you believe you already have relevant experience in **Watsu or Aquatic Bodywork**.

The advantages of applying for RPL are:

- **Recognise your real skills:** You can demonstrate whether your practical experience in giving Watsu or Aquatic Bodywork sessions aligns with the AIAB standards.
- **Avoid unnecessary repetition:** If you have already achieved some of the competencies, you may not need to repeat the same training and assessment.
- **Progress more quickly:** Recognition of your existing skills could allow you to move forward into more advanced or specialised Aquatic Bodywork studies.
- **Focus on what matters most:** You may only need to complete training and assessment in the areas you have not yet mastered, saving time and allowing you to build on your strengths.

## Units of Competency and Guidelines for Credit Requirements:

### Purpose

This section outlines the conditions under which credits may be awarded towards AIAB programs through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). It ensures consistency, transparency, and alignment with WABA standards.

### Definitions

- *Water-Based Courses*: Training units delivered in aquatic environments, recognised by WABA.
- *Land-Based Courses*: Training units delivered on land, including theoretical and practical components.
- *Accredited Instructor*: An instructor formally recognised and approved by WABA or AIAB.

### Water-Based Courses

1. Credit is automatically granted for courses delivered by any WABA-approved instructor worldwide.
2. Credits awarded under this clause may be subject to review and final approval by AIAB to ensure alignment with WABA and the Australian standards and program integrity.

### Land-Based Courses

1. Land-based training requirements must be undertaken on a face-to-face basis.
2. Skills and competencies must be demonstrated and practiced under the direct supervision of an accredited instructor.
3. Online or distance-study will not be accepted for land-based practical units.
4. The only exception is applied to Anatomy and Physiology, which may be studied and completed via online or distance-based delivery, as they are theory-based subjects.

### List of bodywork discipline that can be submitted for credit:

- Certified Massage Therapists
- Thai massage
- Alexander Technique (hands-on guidance of posture and movement)
- Body-Mind Centering®
- Craniosacral Therapy
- Rolfing® Structural Integration
- Hellerwork

- Bowen Therapy
- Trager Approach
- Ortho-Bionomy
- Myofascial Release
- Trigger Point Therapy
- Tuina (Traditional Chinese Medicine bodywork)
- Lomi Lomi (Hawaiian bodywork)
- Ayurveda
- Osteopathy
- Chiropractic
- Physiotherapy
- Registered Nurses
- Other professionals with a strong therapeutic background with over 500 accredited hours of professional training

## RPL Application Requirements

### Compliance

All applications for RPL must be supported by official evidence (certificates, transcripts, or documented instructor verifications) and will be assessed in accordance with AIAB's RPL procedures.

To apply for RPL, you must submit:

1. **Written documentation** describing your experience and practical skills for each unit.
2. **Full supporting evidence**, including:
  - Official certificates or statements of attainment
  - Written testimonial(s) from your training provider(s) with their full contact details
3. **Completed RPL application form** (provided with this kit).

**Cost:** \$250 AUD to the AIAB + any other required WABA fees per application

## Process

1. Complete the RPL Application Form and submit along with all required evidence.
2. Submit your application with payment to:

**Account Name** Aquanat Pty Ltd

**BSB** 036063

**Account Number** 221817

**Reference** Client's Full Name

**Applications are normally assessed within a few weeks.**

**If evidence is insufficient, you may be contacted for clarification or asked to provide further evidence.**