

## Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy Update | Quick Guide

Why was the policy updated?

**To align RPL with the new curricula and improve consistency, clarity and defensibility**

- Transition to hybrid competency- and time-based training
- New training phases, learning goals and progression decisions
- Long-standing feedback about RPL complexity and inconsistency
- Need to operate effectively within the Training Management Platform (TMP)

How was the policy updated?

**Co-designed, consulted on and refined College-wide**

- 58 committees & DPEs invited.
- 31 respondents across committees, supervisors & educators.
- ✓ Strong overall support for all major changes
- ✓ Approved by CEC – March 2026

New curricula alignment

**The RPL process is aligned with training phases and learning goals**

Trainees are required to complete self-assessment against learning goals, with supervisor endorsement.

RPL categories include:

- Professional experience (rotations)
- Research projects
- Other curriculum requirements

Clearer, stronger RPL principles

**9 principles reduced to 6 new streamlined principles**

Key clarifications:

- Educational alignment with curricula & progression criteria
- Authenticity = genuine *and* robust evidence
- Currency differentiated by experience type

Key shift in RPL decisions

**From time alone → to time + progression criteria**

Before (PREP)	Now (New Curricula)
Certified time	Certified time plus phase progression decision (≥12 months)
Limited reference to competence	Explicit alignment with learning goals and progression criteria

## Governance and decision-making making approach

### RPL decisions now mirror progression decisions

Training Program Committees (TPCs):

- Act as Primary Progress Review Panel
- Retain final decision-making authority

Flexibility built in:

- Secondary PRPs can support by making recommendations
- Delegation for routine / low-risk cases
- Central register improves consistency & oversight

## Custom forms different types of RPL

### 3 RPL categories = 3 forms

1. Professional Experience (Rotations) - PREP or new specialty-specific forms
2. Research Project – all programs
3. Other Requirements – all programs

**1 May – 31 July 2026:** Old PREP forms accepted for new curricula specialties  
**From 1 August 2026:** New curricula → new forms only

## More flexible application deadlines

### To better support trainees at program entry

RPL type	Old deadline	New deadline
Professional experience	3 months	6 months
Research project	6 months	12 months

Late submissions permitted in exceptional circumstances. Deadlines aligned with progression decision points.

## Implementation

### Transition period: 1 May – July 2026

- The new policy applies to all decisions
- New application forms adopted progressively
- Training provided for TPCs and DPEs
- Web content and communications updated

### Full implementation: From August 2026

- New application forms used for all submissions
- Routine monitoring and refinement
- Ongoing support provided to committees