

Advanced Standing Policy

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Purpose:

To govern the award of Advanced Standing towards the requirements of a Murdoch University qualification.

This Policy distinguishes the recognition of prior learning and the award of credit for Advanced Standing from the governance and management of Articulation Arrangements, matters previously covered under the same policy. Advanced Standing is defined as the award of credit towards an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) qualification offered by Murdoch University on the basis of prior study, and is subject to formal agreement between the University and each individual student.

Audience:

Staff, Students, Prospective students of Murdoch University

Objectives:

- To maintain the academic integrity of University courses of study and awards;
- To enable students to take into account the credit that may be due to them when making their study choices;
- To ensure that the awarding of Advanced Standing is evidence-based, equitable and transparent;
- To ensure that the award of Advanced Standing is managed consistently across all Colleges of the University.

Definitions:

Any defined terms below are specific to this document. The definition of common terms appears in the Murdoch University Dictionary of Terms.

There are no terms.

Policy Statement:

1. Prospective students may apply for Advanced Standing at the point of application to a course. The award of Advanced Standing is conditional upon the student being admitted to the course. The effect of a successful application for Advanced

Standing shall be for the applicant to be awarded credit towards the course of study named on the application.

2. The provision of documentary evidence to support an application for Advanced Standing is the responsibility of the applicant.
3. The assessment of the application for Advanced Standing shall take into account the following conditions, all of which must be met:
 - 3.1 The learning must be current. The Academic Chair of the relevant discipline must be satisfied as to the currency of the learning in that discipline;
 - 3.2 The learning must be relevant to the course of study and the knowledge and skills acquired must contribute towards achievement of the learning outcomes of the course applied for;
 - 3.3 The evidence presented must be academically defensible and support the student's ability to successfully meet the course learning outcomes. To this end, where the application concerns formal prior learning, the respective AQF levels of the prior learning and the qualification applied for must be comparable and there must be evidence of successful attainment. Where the prior learning is informal or non-formal, the evidence presented must demonstrate the acquisition of relevant knowledge and skills at the required level.
4. Assessment of Advanced Standing shall take place in a timely manner such that the student can take the outcome of the process into account when enrolling for the first time.
5. All credit awarded under the Advanced Standing Policy must be useable towards the qualification applied for. Exemptions may be awarded for specific units, and /or general credit may be awarded to offset against the course requirements.
6. The outcome of the Advanced Standing assessment shall be recorded in the applicable University systems and shall reflect the basis on which it was awarded.
7. The outcome of the Advanced Standing assessment shall be a formal statement issued to the student which shall specify:
 - 7.1 Credit awarded in the form of exemptions, and the specific units to which this applies and/or;
 - 7.2 The value and level of any general credit which may be offset against the course requirements and/or;
 - 7.3 The reason for not awarding credit applied for.

8. Where credit is awarded in the form of exemptions and the student refuses the award, this refusal:
 - 8.1 Must be made in writing; and
 - 8.2 Is final and cannot be reversed once the student enrolls in a course.
9. Where an application for Advanced Standing requires a judgment to be made about prior learning for which there is a precedent recorded, the determination may be made by an Admissions or Advanced Standing Officer. In the absence of a recorded precedent the determination for required units shall be made by the Academic Chair for the course applied for.
10. The applicant shall have a right of appeal against the outcome, which may be submitted for review on one occasion only. Where the original determination has been made by an Admissions or Advanced Standing Officer, the review shall be conducted by the relevant Manager. Where the original determination has been made by the Academic Chair, the review shall be conducted by the relevant Dean Academic Operations or nominee.

Performance Indicators:

There are no performance indicators.

Related Documents:

[Assessment and Award of Advanced Standing Procedure](#)

[Assessment and Award of Advanced Standing for Academic Chairs Guideline](#)

References:

There are no references.

Approval and Implementation:

Approval Authority:	Academic Council
Responsible Officer(s):	Director of Student Management; Director International
Approval Authority for supporting procedures:	Academic Courses and Admissions Committee
Approval Authority for supporting guidelines:	Academic Courses and Admissions Committee
Contact Officer:	Domestic Admissions Team Leader; International Admissions Manager

Revision History:

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Rescinded AC/144/2017(i)	06/07/2018			AC/64/2018(ii)
Administrative amendment	07/02/2018 by University Secretary			
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