

APEL @ UCSI






ACCREDITATION OF PRIOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Recognising what you already know

UCSI University recognises that meaningful learning does not only happen in classrooms. Through Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL), your knowledge, skills and competencies gained through work, training, community service or self-learning can be formally assessed and credited toward an academic qualification.

APEL supports adult learners and working professionals by providing flexible pathways to pursue higher education based on real world experience.

APEL PROGRAMMES	 APEL.C Credit Award	 APEL.Q Award of Qualification	 APEL.A Access
Purpose	Credit transfer for specific courses within a programme	Direct award of a full academic qualification based on experience	To provide individuals who lack formal academic qualifications with work experience - an alternative pathway to pursue higher education at tertiary institutions
Target Audience	Learners with substantial work experience or informal training	Direct award of a full academic qualification based on experience	Has prior learning experience but has no formal academic qualifications
Outcome	Recognised credits that count toward your academic programme	Full academic qualifications (e.g. a Master's Degree)	-
Key Benefits	Shorter study duration and lower tuition cost	No formal study required, qualification through experience	Potentially reduces the time and cost required for completing a study programme by recognising prior learning.

Core Principles of APEL

- ✓ Recognises learning acquired through work, training, self-study and community service
- ✓ Promotes lifelong learning
- ✓ Encourages flexible academic pathways
- ✓ Supports adult learners and experienced professionals



You will be assessed based on your prior:



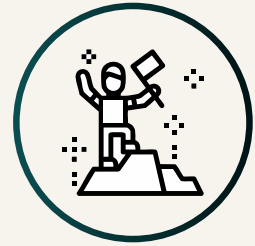
Working experiences



Community-based learning



Professional development trainings



Independent or self-development programmes

Eligibility Criteria

- Open to **Malaysian and non-Malaysian citizens**
- **UCSI students** with relevant work experience or accumulation of short courses
- APEL.C applications are open to all students who have been accepted into UCSI and meet the following conditions:
 - ✓ The applicant must be registered as a UCSI student and must not have previously applied for APEL.C using the same prior working experience.
 - ✓ Applications can only be made for **courses they have not yet enrolled in.**

Assessment methods

- Depends on the course applied for credit transfer
- May involve one or more of the following methods:
 - ✓ **Portfolio**
 - ✓ **Challenge test**

Credit limit

Up to **60%** of the total graduating credit hours

Benefits and advantages of APEL.C

- Saves **time and study costs**
- Avoids repetitive learning (no need to attend lectures for recognised prior learning)
- Recognises students' **work experience or prior learning**



APEL.Q is an alternative route for experienced individual to obtain a formal academic qualification without undergoing a full conventional programme.

Programme Offered at UCSI

Master in International Hospitality Management (MQA/FA 12169)

Faculty of Hospitality & Tourism Management (KL Campus)

Assessment Components

Portfolio
Assessment

Field
Validation Visit

Challenge
Test



Capstone
Project

- Portfolio Assessment:** Compilation of written or recorded evidence showcasing prior learning from work experience, training or informal education.
- Field Validation Visit:** Verification of competencies at the workplace or other relevant environment through direct observation and discussion.
- Challenge Test:** Standardised written, oral or performance-based test to validate knowledge and skills aligned with programme outcomes.
- Capstone Course:** A final integrated project that demonstrates mastery of the core competencies of the programme.

* *Compulsory Course – Research Method*

Benefits and advantages of APEL.Q

- Recognises individual learning experiences gained from outside of formal streams and pathways
- No final examination
- Learner-centred

Eligibility Criteria

- Open to **Malaysian and non-Malaysian citizens**
- Must possess relevant work experience in a related field (Hospitality and Tourism)
- Must meet the required minimum working experience based on MQF Level (minimum age to start working is 18 years old)

LEVEL MQF	QUALIFICATION	MINIMUM WORK EXPERIENCE
LEVEL 7	MASTER'S DEGREE	20 YEARS

NOTE :

- The minimum study duration for all APEL.Q programmes is one (1) year, subject to the candidate's capability.
- The maximum duration to complete the APEL.Q is:

LEVEL MQF	LEVEL 7	MASTER'S DEGREE
MAXIMUM DURATION	4 YEARS	

APEL.A Assessment Aspects

APEL.A involves the assessment of prior experiential learning, which can be acquired through formal, non-formal or informal means, including but not limited to:

- Work experience
- Hobbies
- Short-term and long-term courses
- Short-term and long-term training
- Self-directed learning (e.g. through Google, YouTube, Facebook, Blogs, Websites)

Eligibility Criteria

- Open to **Malaysian and non-Malaysian citizens**
- Must possess relevant work experience in a related field
- Must meet the required minimum working experience based on MQF Level

MQF LEVEL	QUALIFICATION	MINIMUM AGE
Level 3	CERTIFICATE	19 YEARS OLD
Level 4	DIPLOMA	20 YEARS OLD
Level 5	ADVANCED DIPLOMA	20 YEARS OLD
Level 6	BACHELOR'S DEGREE	21 YEARS OLD
Level 7	MASTER'S DEGREE	30 YEARS OLD
Level 8	DOCTORATE (PhD)	35 YEARS OLD

* For **Level 7 (Master's)** and **Level 8 (Doctorate)** applications, candidates must possess a **Diploma** and **Bachelor's Degree**, respectively.

Benefits and advantages of APEL.A

- **No formal academic qualifications required** (e.g., SPM, PMR, STPM, etc.)

Note: For Master's Degree (Level 7), STPM/Diploma or equivalent is required. For Doctorate (Level 8), a Bachelor's Degree is required.

- **Reduces study duration**
- **Cost-effective pathway** to higher education
- **Affordable assessment fees**

For more information, please contact: