

# Nursing division

## Basic Critical Care Nursing program

<p><b>What is PLAR?</b></p>	<p>Prior Learning Assessment (PLAR) is an evaluation through a valid and reliable process, by qualified specialist(s), of the knowledge and skills that have been learned through non-formal education, training or experience to determine the equivalency for credit to a SIAST course.</p>
<p><b>What can PLAR do for me?</b></p>	<p>PLAR reduces redundant learning and provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognition for skills and knowledge acquired through prior learning</li> <li>▪ Portable credentials</li> <li>▪ Increased employment opportunities</li> </ul>
<p><b>How do I know if I'm a candidate?</b></p>	<p>If you have at least three years (or the equivalent of 5000 hours) of successful and current successful work experience Critical Care Nursing, and can provide evidence of your skills and knowledge to align with learning outcomes within the Basic Critical Care Nursing Program, you are eligible to be a PLAR candidate.</p>
<p><b>What are the PLAR options?</b></p>	<p>You must be registered in a SIAST Basic Critical Care Nursing program to receive PLAR services. Admission standards for programs will still apply. See admissions policy in the <a href="#">SIAST calendar</a> or <a href="#">website</a>.</p> <p><b>PLAR challenges are available for Program level certification</b> A candidate guide has been developed for this program and is accessible through the <a href="#">program web page</a>.</p>
<p><b>How many courses are available by PLAR?</b></p>	<p>The BCCN program's nine courses are PLAR ready. They are:</p> <p>NRSG 227 Cardiovascular System and Associated Diseases          NRSG 228 ECG Interpretation          NRSG 229 Cardiovascular Hemodynamics and Pharmacology          CLIN 210 Clinical Practice 1          NRSG 230 Critical Care Challenges 1          NRSG 231 Critical Care Challenges 2          CLIN 211 Clinical Practice 2          NRSG 232 Critical Care Challenges 3          CLIN 212 Clinical Practice 3</p> <p>For assistance call SIAST and ask to speak to the BCCN Program advisor Trina Hill at: 1 866-467 4278 or 1-866-goSIAST, Extension: 775-7577</p>

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<p><b>When are PLAR challenges offered?</b></p>	<p>You can apply for PLAR at any time between September and March. You must complete the requirements for PLAR prior to the second last week of June in order that the assessment can be completed by the end of June. The deadline to make a PLAR application is March 31st of each year.</p>
<p><b>How much does PLAR cost?</b></p>	<p>To find fees for your course(s) visit the <a href="#">PLAR database</a> and select your program of study from the first dropdown list of programs or search the course name and code using the “<b>keyword search</b>” option.</p> <p>For assistance, call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.</p>
<p><b>Are there methods other than PLAR to gain SIAST course credits for prior learning?</b></p>	<p><b>Transfer Credit</b></p> <p>SIAST may grant a transfer credit for course(s) from a recognized credit-granting post-secondary educational institution. The training must be similar in content, objectives and evaluation standards to SIAST training.</p> <p>Major changes in program content may require that the student repeat or seek prior learning assessment recognition for the course for which transfer credit is requested.</p> <p>Any transfer credit agreements with this program are listed in the candidate guide.</p> <p>For specific information and guidelines regarding transfer of credit, contact a SIAST educational counsellor or refer to the SIAST website:</p> <p><a href="http://www.siastr.sk.ca/stuserservices/plar/transfer_credit.shtml">http://www.siastr.sk.ca/stuserservices/plar/transfer_credit.shtml</a></p> <p>If your training does not qualify for credit transfer you may ask for a review of your learning through the PLAR process.</p>
<p><b>What do I need to prepare for a PLAR assessment?</b></p>	<p>Credit is earned for proven knowledge and skills. You will be assessed on your competence in the learning outcomes for each course. For more information on the learning outcomes, criteria, and the form of assessment please refer to the <a href="#">Basic Critical Care Nursing program PLAR candidate guide &amp; self-audit package</a>.</p>
<p><b>How do I get started?</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the <a href="#">10-step PLAR process</a></li> <li>2. Call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the BCCN program at: 1-866-goSIAST.</li> <li>3. Call SIAST and ask to speak to the BCCN Program advisor Trina Hill at: 1 866-467 4278 or 1-866-goSIAST, Extension: 775-7577.</li> </ol>