

Entrepreneurship and Small Business

What is PLAR?	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.
What can PLAR do for me?	PLAR reduces redundant learning and provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition for skills and knowledge acquired through prior learning • Portable credentials • Increased employment opportunities
How do I know if I'm a candidate?	If you have recent (within the past three years) successful work experience of a year or more in the small business field and can provide evidence of your skills and knowledge to align with learning outcomes within the ESB program, you may be a PLAR candidate.
What are the PLAR options?	Course Level Challenge – If you have the skills and knowledge for one or more of the Entrepreneurship and Small Business courses, you may be assessed for each applicable course.
How many courses are available by PLAR?	Currently there are 3 out of 27 certificate courses with PLAR challenges available. You may challenge as many of these courses as you are able to prove prior skills and knowledge through assessment. For a listing of the specific PLAR-ready course titles, check the PLAR database or call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the ESB Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.
When are PLAR challenges offered?	PLAR challenges are currently being offered in selected courses. Some courses can only be challenged after completion of prerequisites.
What do I need to prepare for a PLAR assessment?	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 PLAR candidate guide & self-audit package.
How much does PLAR cost?	For a listing of the specific PLAR fees, check the PLAR database or call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the ESB Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.

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Are there methods other than PLAR to gain SIAST course credits for prior learning?	<p>Transfer Credit</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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>The ESB program does not currently offer transfer credits.</p> <p>For specific information and guidelines regarding Transfer of Credit, contact a SIAST Educational Counsellor or refer to the SIAST Website:</p> <p>http://www.siastr.sk.ca/siastr/admissions/transferecredit.htm</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>Equivalent Course Credit</p> <p>SIAST may recognize credit for a specific SIAST course(s) on the basis of previous credit in another SIAST course(s).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A student may request prior learning assessment recognition for the course(s) in which the curriculum no longer qualifies for equivalency. <p>The ESB Program does not currently offer equivalent course credit.</p>
How do I get started?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review the 10-step PLAR process at http://www.siastr.sk.ca/siastr/admissions/plar.htm2. Call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the ESB Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.