

Health Information Management

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?	<p>PLAR reduces redundant learning and provides:</p> <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 successful work experience in the Health Information Management field and can provide evidence of your skills and knowledge to align with learning outcomes within the Health Information Management (HIM) program, you may be a PLAR candidate.
What are the PLAR Options?	The HIM Program has PLAR challenges available both at the course and block levels. Course challenges allow candidates to PLAR individual courses whereas block assessments allow candidates who have in depth experience within the health management field to challenge several related courses at one time.
How many courses are available by PLAR?	Eleven courses in this program are PLAR-ready for individual course challenges. Four block assessments consisting of two courses each are also PLAR ready. 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 HIM Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.
When are PLAR challenges offered?	<p>PLAR challenges are currently being offered twice a year:</p> <p>January (you must apply by November 15)</p> <p>May (you must apply by March 15).</p>
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 HIM Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.

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<p>Are there methods other than PLAR to gain SIAST course credits for prior learning?</p>	<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>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>http://www.siastr.sk.ca/siastr/admissions/transfercredit.htm</p> <hr/> <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>The HIM Program 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>What do I need to prepare for a PLAR assessment?</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 PLAR candidate guide & self-audit package.</p>
<p>How do I get started?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the 10-step PLAR Process at http://www.siastr.sk.ca/siastr/admissions/plar.htm 2. Call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the HIM Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.