

Library & Information Technology

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 at least 2 years of successful experience within the past 5 years in the library field or related fields and can provide evidence of your skills and knowledge to meet learning outcomes within the Library and Information Technology Program, you may be a PLAR candidate.
What are the PLAR Options?	Currently we have 17 out of 38 diploma courses with individual PLAR challenges available. You may challenge as many of these courses as you are able to prove prior skills and knowledge through assessment. Check for prerequisite courses in the listing.
How many courses are available by PLAR?	Many courses in this program are PLAR-ready. For a listing of the specific PLAR-ready course titles, and sequence order, check the PLAR Candidate Guide, PLAR database or call SIAST and ask to speak to the PLAR advisor/counsellor assigned to the Library and Information Technology Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.
When are PLAR challenges offered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March assessment (you must apply between September and January 31) • August assessment (you must apply between April and June 15)
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 Library & Information Technology Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.

Library & Information Technology Program - Continued

<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>
	<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 Library & Information Technology 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 Library & Information Technology Program at: 1-866-467-4278 or 1-866-goSIAST.