


# NURS 225 Health Assessment for Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

<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>To be eligible for PLAR, an applicant must first apply to the PCNP program. Admission standards for programs will still apply. See admissions policy in the <a href="#">SIAST calendar</a> or <a href="#">website</a>.</p> <p>If you have previously learned the skills and knowledge for health assessment, you may apply to be assessed for the applicable course. All registered nurses who have completed a recent Baccalaureate of Nursing have completed a health assessment course and are eligible for PLAR.</p>
<p><b>What are the PLAR options?</b></p>	<p>To be accepted in the PCNP program, the candidate must have credit for NURS 225 or equivalent (see below), <b>within the last year</b> prior to starting the program.</p> <p>If you have successfully completed a health assessment courses over <b>one year ago</b>, the PCNP Program may grant a transfer credit for the <b>theory</b> component of the course. In this case, you will be required to seek prior learning assessment recognition (PLAR) for the assessment of the <b>skill performance</b> component.</p>
<p><b>How many courses are available by PLAR?</b></p>	<p>Currently the only course available for PLAR is NURS 225. NURS 225 Health Assessment is a pre-requisite course, not a core course, of the Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (PCNP) program.</p>
<p><b>When are PLAR challenges offered?</b></p>	<p>PLAR challenges are accepted anytime and must be completed 6 weeks from date of PLAR application or June 1 in order to be eligible to begin the fall intake of the program.</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.gosiast.com/stuservices/plar/transfer_credit.shtml">http://www.gosiast.com/stuservices/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>Equivalent course credit</b></p> <p>Equivalency credit refers to the application of credit you may have earned in a previously taken SIAST course to your current SIAST course. Apply at registration services for <i>equivalency credit</i>. This process should also be completed prior to your PLAR challenge. If these credits cannot be used for <i>equivalency credit</i>, you may use these accredited courses as part of your evidence for your PLAR challenge.</p> <p>Equivalent courses are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NURS 217.6 or NEPS 220.3 and NEPS 221.3 Health Assessment (NEPS)</li> <li>NURS 318.3 Health Assessment, University of Saskatchewan</li> <li>NURS 255 Health Assessment, Medicine Hat College</li> <li>NURS 468 Health Assessment, University of Alberta</li> <li>NURS 816 Health Assessment, Ryerson University</li> <li>NURS 326 Health Assessment and Health Promotion with Individuals, Athabasca University</li> </ul>

<b>What do I need to prepare for a PLAR assessment?</b>	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="#">Primary Care Nurse Practitioner program NURS 225 Health Assessment PLAR candidate guide &amp; self-audit package</a> .
<b>How do I get started?</b>	<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 Primary Care Nurse Practitioner program at: 1-866-goSIAST.</li></ol>