Recognition of Prior Learning and Credit Transfer Statement

Newcastle University

POPULATION AND HEALTH SCIENCES / SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMMES

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) AND CREDIT TRANSFER

2025-26

SCOPE OF APPLICATIONS

The University acknowledges that some students will start their time at Newcastle with prior experience – either of studying at other universities or from work. We want to recognise students' past work appropriately, so you may be able to apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (if you have credits from a non- UK university or relevant experience) or credit transfer (credits from a UK university).
The Public Health programmes accept applications from students at all stages for:

a) Credit transfer
b) Recognition of prior certificated learning
c) Recognition of prior experiential learning

RPL and credit transfer is available for all modules to a maximum of 20 credits for the postgraduate certificate and 40 credits for the postgraduate diploma and masters with the exception of:

MPH8099 or MPH8097/MPH8098 Dissertations are excluded from RPL as they are worth 60 credits and are the dissertation projects for all programmes.

d)   Internal Credit Transfer

Applicants applying for any of the programmes listed below, and who have previously successfully completed the PG Certificate Public Health and Health Services Research at Newcastle University, may be eligible for internal credit transfer to the value of 60 credits (the equivalence of the PG Certificate modules). Applications will be considered by the DPD and decisions will be subject to the length of time between the completion of the PG Certificate and start of the Masters award.

Master of Public Health 5898F

Master of Public Health (2 yrs) 5898P

Master of Public Health (3 yrs) 5899P

Normally only learning within the last five years can be taken into account.

WHO TO APPROACH

The contact person is in the first instance Programme Administrator who can be contacted on 0191 208 2337 or at pghealth@ncl.ac.uk

What evidence will be required:

For a) and b) above – transcript showing level, credits and marks plus copies of syllabuses.

For (c) - dates and details of relevant experience with evidence (e.g. employer statement) and an explanation as to how the learning outcomes of the modules for which the applicant seeks RPL have been met.

For (d) – transcript showing level, credits and marks.

WHAT ADVICE AND INFORMATION WILL BE GIVEN

Each applicant for RPL or credit transfer will be issued with the relevant module outline forms specifying learning outcomes and given an RPL/credit transfer application form.

Each applicant for RPL will be interviewed to discuss whether their prior learning would allow exemption from taught modules.

Advice will be available from the Degree Programme Director, who can be contacted on 0191 208 2337 or at pghealth@ncl.ac.uk.

HOW RPL DECISIONS ARE MADE AND OUTCOME

Applications should be submitted to the Programme Administrator, who can be contacted on 0191 208 2337 or pghealth@ncl.ac.uk for consideration by the Degree Programme Director.

Applicants should hear the results of their application within 20 working days.

If your application for RPL or credit transfer is successful, you will not have to take the module (or modules) identified in your application. However, any previous marks (at another University) will not be counted toward your Newcastle degree classification. If you receive credit transfer, you will be considered to have 'passed' the module; if you receive RPL, you receive no credit for the module but will be exempt from taking it. It may not always be to your benefit to apply for RPL or credit transfer, since it means that you will have fewer modules that count toward your final degree classification (meaning that each one carries a greater weight).

If you successfully apply for RPL or credit transfer, you could gain permission to study modules outside the degree programme regulations or additional optional modules, with DPD approval, up to a full credit load. If you do so, these modules will count toward your final degree classification.