

Comparable prior learning - Philippines

Schedule 1, in clause 13 of the [Advanced Standing and Recognition of Prior Learning Procedures](#) prescribes the credit that applies for prior learning in discipline related Australian qualifications, or occupational/voluntary experience. Below is the equivalence between Australian and Philippine prior formal learning at Southern Cross University (SCU).

All applicants (domestic or international) must meet the University's [English language requirements for admission](#).

Previous completed or incomplete vocational qualifications allow the University to formulate a selection rank to determine eligibility for a place of study at Southern Cross University. Please be guided by the [Calculating the rank](#) information and the indicative entry score published for each [Southern Cross University course](#).

No.	Related Philippines qualification (formal learning)	Comparable Australian qualification and SCU selection rank	Credit awarded into related SCU Undergraduate Degrees	Credit awarded into related SCU Postgraduate Degrees
1	Certificate or Diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 years of full-time study • Issued by a *Section 1 higher education institute OR Certificate or Diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 years full-time • Evidence of passing the Professional Regulation Commission's Licensure Examinations in the relevant professional field • Issued by a *Section 2 or Section 3 higher education institute OR Associate Degree or Associate in [field] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2 years full-time • Issued by a *Section 2 or Section 3 higher education institute, or a Technical and vocational education institute 	Certificate IV Rank 73	4 units (6 months) credit into a Bachelor Degree	

No.	Related Philippines qualification (formal learning)	Comparable Australian qualification and SCU selection rank	Credit awarded into related SCU Undergraduate Degrees	Credit awarded into related SCU Postgraduate Degrees
2	Associate Degree or Associate in [field] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2 years full-time • Issued by a *Section 1 higher education institute OR Bachelor Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued by a *Section 1 higher education institute 	Diploma Rank 75	8 units (1 year) credit into a Bachelor Degree	Complete the SCU PQP to receive up to 2 units credit into a 2 year Masters Degree
3	Bachelor Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued by a *Section 2 higher education institute OR Masters Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normally require at least 2 years of full-time study and at least 30 credits. • Following a Bachelor Degree assessed at Diploma level • Issued by a *Section 3 higher education institute 	Associate Degree Rank 84	16 units (2 years) credit into a Bachelor Degree	Complete the SCU PQP to receive up to 2 units credit into a 2 year Masters Degree
4	Bachelor Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued by a *Section 1 higher education institute OR Bachelor Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of passing the Professional Regulation Commission's Licensure Examinations in the relevant professional field or Bar Examination 	Bachelor Degree Rank 86	Up to 24 units (3 years) credit into a 4 year Bachelor Degree or Double Degree	4 units (6 months) credit into a 2 year Masters Degree

No.	Related Philippines qualification (formal learning)	Comparable Australian qualification and SCU selection rank	Credit awarded into related SCU Undergraduate Degrees	Credit awarded into related SCU Postgraduate Degrees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued by a *Section 2 higher education institute <p>OR</p> <p>Masters Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normally require at least 2 years of full-time study and at least 30 credits. Following a Bachelor Degree assessed at Associate Degree level Issued by a *Section 2 higher education institute <p>OR</p> <p>Bachelor Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of passing the Professional Regulation Commission's Licensure Examinations in the relevant professional field or Bar Examination Issued by a *Section 3 higher education institute <p>OR</p> <p>Masters Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normally require at least 2 years of full-time study and at least 30 credits. Following a Bachelor Degree assessed at Associate Degree level Issued by a *Section 3 higher education institute 			

No.	Related Philippines qualification (formal learning)	Comparable Australian qualification and SCU selection rank	Credit awarded into related SCU Undergraduate Degrees	Credit awarded into related SCU Postgraduate Degrees
5	<p>Masters Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normally require at least 2 years of full-time study and at least 30 credits. Following a Bachelor Degree assessed at Bachelor Degree level Issued by a *Section 2 higher education institute <p>OR</p> <p>Masters Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normally require at least 2 years of full-time study and at least 30 credits. Following a Bachelor Degree assessed at Bachelor Degree level Issued by a *Section 3 higher education institute 	<p>Graduate Diploma</p> <p>Rank 82</p>		<p>4 units (6 months) credit into a 1.5 year Masters Degree; or</p> <p>8 units (1 year) credit into a 2 year Masters Degree</p>
6	<p>Masters Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> normally require at least 2 years of full-time study and at least 30 credits. Issued by a *Section 1 higher education institute <p>OR</p> <p>Doctoral Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued by a *Section 2 higher education institute 	<p>Masters Degree</p> <p>Rank 88</p>		
7	<p>All other qualifications, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postgraduate qualifications; National Certificate IV or lower; 	<p>Assessed individually, on a case-by-case basis.</p>		

No.	Related Philippines qualification (formal learning)	Comparable Australian qualification and SCU selection rank	Credit awarded into related SCU Undergraduate Degrees	Credit awarded into related SCU Postgraduate Degrees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 1 year of full-time study; • Preparatory, foundation or bridging courses; • Trade qualifications; or • English proficiency qualifications. 			
8	Qualifications owned/awarded by institutions from a country other than Philippine.	Assessed using that country's AQF comparability.		

Please note: A Doctor of Medicine (MD), Bachelor of Laws and Juris Doctor (which are undertaken after a Bachelor Degree), Doctor of Dental Medicine (DDM) and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) are all considered first degrees.

*View [Appendix 1](#) – Organisation of the assessment guidelines for higher education institutes to know more about the differences between Section 1, 2 and 3 higher education institutions.

**Search [ANZSCO](#) to identify the skill level of tasks and responsibilities in an occupation.

***View the [SCU English Language comparable test scores](#) to Academic IELTS.

View the SCU [International course options](#) to confirm course details, such as duration, minimum English language proficiency, locations, start dates and annual tuition fees. SCU typically announces tuition fees by 1 June for the following academic year, commencing in January. Applicants may increase English proficiency by adding the [SCU College English Language for Academic Purposes \(EAP\)](#) program to their SCU pathway. Students who study EAP with SCU College do not need to sit an IELTS or equivalent English language test to continue their study in another SCU degree.

Appendix 1 - Organisation of the assessment guidelines for higher education institutes

Section 1 – Very Good Institutions

This section contains the leading state universities and colleges, autonomous and deregulated private higher education institutions, as well as institutions that have obtained Level III and/or Level IV program accreditation, and those with a Centre of Excellence (COE) or Centre of Development (COD). COE and CODs receive additional government funding.

Leading state universities and colleges were identified by using a range of qualitative criteria including demonstrated research activity, having designated Centres of Excellence, and consistently high performance of graduates in the PRC exams. Autonomous and deregulated institutions are designated by CHED and have the greatest academic freedom.

Certificate and Diploma qualifications are highly varied, can range from 1-3 years and be awarded by a range of institutions including universities, technical and vocational schools and community colleges. Some qualifications awarded by universities may articulate into a Bachelor Degree. 2-year full-time Certificates and Diplomas are recommended to be assessed at AQF Certificate IV level.

2-year Associate Degrees are recommended to be assessed at AQF Diploma level based on the status of the institution and program structure. Up to half of a program consists of general education, and as such in the Philippines, 2-year Associate Degrees can be credited towards 2 years in a related Bachelor Degree.

Bachelor and Master Degrees are recommended to be assessed at face-value. Postgraduate Diplomas are recommended to be assessed case-by-case on the basis that we have not assessed these qualifications as yet. Doctoral Degrees are recommended to be assessed on a case-by-case basis with the possibility of assessment at AQF Doctoral Degree level if a Doctor of Philosophy is awarded and the thesis is based on original research.

Section 2 – Good institutions

Higher education institutions in this section have accredited programs at Level II (by FAAP for private institutions and the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines for public institutions).

There are more quality variations in institutions and programs amongst Section 2 institutions. Generally, programs do not have the academic rigor and consistency compared to institutions in Section 1.

2-year full-time Certificates and Diplomas with evidence of a pass in the PRC exams are recommended to be assessed at AQF Certificate IV level. If there is no evidence of a pass in the PRC exam then we are unable to recommend an assessment outcome as we do not assess below AQF Certificate IV level. This should not prevent other assessing authorities from providing an assessment outcome.

2-year Associate Degrees are recommended to be assessed at AQF Certificate IV level based on the status of the institution and program structure where up to half of the program consists of general education.

Bachelor Degrees with evidence of a pass in the PRC exam are recommended to be assessed at face-value i.e. Australian Bachelor Degree level. Without evidence of a pass in the PRC exam, Bachelor Degrees are recommended to be assessed at AQF Associate Degree level.

Postgraduate Diplomas are recommended to be assessed case-by-case on the basis that we have not assessed these qualifications as yet.

A Master Degree following a Bachelor Degree that is recommended to be assessed at AQF Associate Degree level, is recommended to be assessed at Australian Bachelor Degree. Where the underpinning Bachelor Degree is recommended to be assessed at Australian Bachelor Degree, we recommend assessment at AQF Graduate Diploma level.

Doctoral Degrees are recommended to be assessed at Australian Masters Degree level.

Section 3 – Other institutions

This section contains all other regulated higher education institutions.

Teaching standards, research activities, quality of graduates and program accreditation are highly variable in terms of quality and consistency compared to institutions in the other sections.

2-year full-time Certificates and Diplomas with evidence of a pass in the Professional Regulation Commission's licensure examinations are recommended to be assessed at AQF Certificate IV level. If there is no evidence of a pass in the PRC exam then we are unable to recommend an assessment outcome as we do not assess below AQF Certificate IV level. This should not prevent other assessing authorities from providing an assessment outcome.

2-year Associate Degrees are recommended to be assessed at AQF Certificate IV level based on the status of the institution and program structure where up to half of the program consists of general education.

Bachelor Degrees with evidence of a pass in the PRC examination are recommended to be assessed at face-value i.e. Australian Bachelor Degree level. Other Bachelor Degrees are recommended to be assessed at AQF Diploma level.

Postgraduate Diplomas are recommended to be assessed case-by-case on the basis that we have not assessed these qualifications as yet.

A Masters Degree following a Bachelor Degree recommended to be assessed at AQF Diploma level, is recommended to be assessed at AQF Associate Degree level. A Masters Degree following a Bachelor Degree recommended to be assessed at AQF Associate Degree level, is recommended to be assessed at Australian Bachelor Degree level. A Masters Degree following a Bachelor Degree recommended to be assessed at Australian Bachelor Degree level, is recommended to be assessed at AQF Graduate Certificate level.