



Australian Government

**REAL SKILLS
DESERVE REAL
RECOGNITION**

Choosing the right training and staying safe

Recognising quality training

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) helps turn your skills and experience into formal qualifications. When delivered properly, real RPL can fast-track careers, fill skills gaps in the workforce, and open doors to new opportunities.

RPL is delivered by genuine Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) and follows a clear process:

- ✓ **Initial consultation** – The provider explains the RPL process and checks your suitability.
- ✓ **Self-assessment** – You review your skills and identify the qualification that best fits.
- ✓ **Evidence portfolio** – You provide documents such as work samples, references or certificates.
- ✓ **Interview or practical assessment** – You demonstrate your skills in practice.
- ✓ **Gap training** – If there are areas where your skills don't fully meet the qualification, training is offered to fill the gaps.

Real RPL is fair, thorough and credible. It protects your future and builds trust in Australia's training system.

Protecting yourself from scams

Not all training providers follow the rules. Some offer shortcuts and give out qualifications without proper training or any assessment. This is fraud, not real RPL.

Here's how to protect yourself:



Understand the qualification

- Search for the qualification on the [Training.gov.au website](https://www.training.gov.au).
- Check the course requirements and core units of competency.

Ask yourself:

- Do I currently have all the skills needed for this qualification?
- Are there things I still need to learn?



Clarify the process

- Ask how you'll be assessed before the qualification is issued.
- Ask what evidence you'll need to provide.
- Ask about training for any gaps in your skills or experience.

Ask yourself:

- Is the process thorough?
- Am I being asked to demonstrate my skills and experience?
- Will I need to do any training before I get the qualification?



If the process to get a qualification seems too quick or easy, it's probably a scam.



Check the training provider

- Ask for the registration number of the RTO.
- Check they're listed on the [National Training Register](#).



Look for reviews and complaints

- Search online for reviews or complaints about the organisation and the RTO.
- Online reviews and forums **can highlight past issues and help you spot fraudulent behaviour.**



Get a written agreement

- Before paying any fees, ask for a **formal written agreement or contract** that shows:
 - The qualification to be issued
 - The RTO responsible for issuing it
 - The RPL process and how you'll be assessed
 - Refund policies



If the organisation won't give you a written agreement, it's probably a scam.

Report suspicious providers:

If you suspect a provider is offering non-genuine RPL or fraudulent qualifications:

- Call [1300 644 844](tel:1300644844) within Australia or [+61 2 5933 2022](tel:+61259332022) (outside Australia)
- Use the [online tip-off form](#)



Find out more at
yourcareer.gov.au/VETIntegrity

