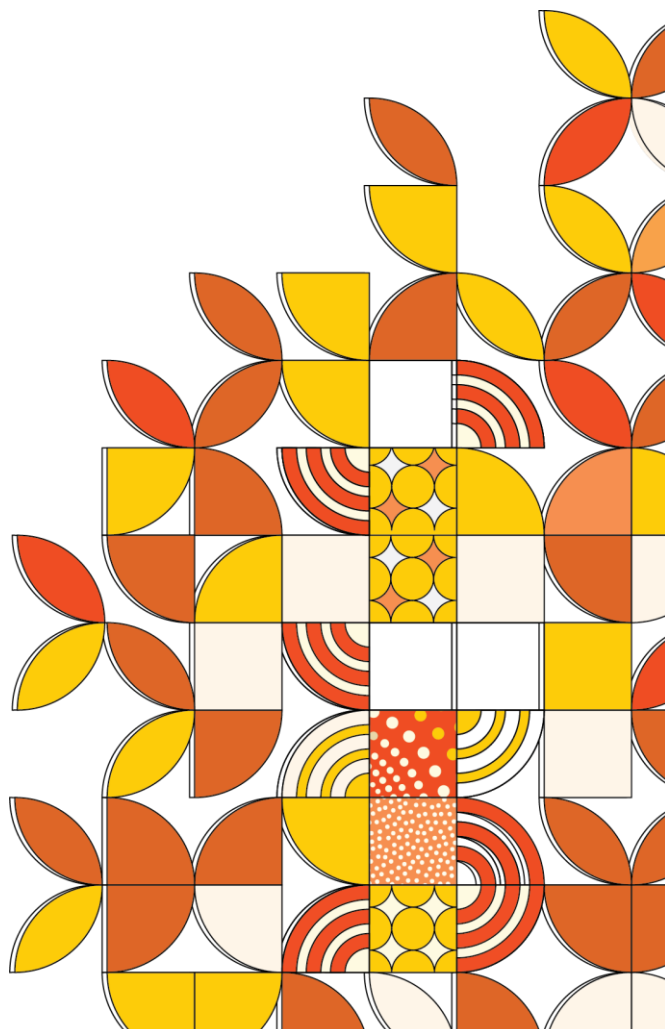


Articulation Policy



SECTION 1

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Policy is to outline the framework for the development, approval, and management of articulation arrangements at the Institute of Health and Management (IHM). This policy ensures that articulation pathways provide transparent, equitable, and consistent recognition of prior learning and qualifications.
2. This Policy aligns with the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 (HESF 2021) and the AQF Qualifications Pathways Policy (2013), ensuring academic integrity and equitable access to higher education.

Scope

3. This Policy applies to:
 - 3.1 Current and prospective students seeking credit through articulation arrangements.
 - 3.2 IHM staff involved in articulation planning, approval, and management or the grant of credits or assessment of prior learning.
 - 3.3 Partner institutions entering into articulation agreements with IHM, both domestic and international.

Definitions

4. Articulation Pathway: A formal, approved arrangement allowing students to progress from one qualification to another with admission and/or credit.
5. Articulation Agreement: A documented agreement outlining the terms of the articulation arrangement between IHM and another educational provider for credit transfer or the recognition of prior learning between the parties to the agreement.
6. Credit for Prior Learning (CPL): Recognition of previously completed formal, non-formal, or informal learning towards a new qualification. See [Australian Qualification Framework \(AQF\) Glossary of Terminology](#) for definitions of formal, non-formal, or informal learning.
7. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): Assessment of an individual's prior learning, existing skills and knowledge gained through work experience, informal training, or other learning for academic credit.
8. For definitions of other terms used in this Policy, refer to IHM's [Glossary of Terms](#).

Suite documents

9. This Policy is linked to the following Policies and Procedures:
 - 9.1 Credit and Prior Learning Policy.
 - 9.2 Credit and Prior Learning Procedure.
 - 9.3 Other documents as listed in the 'Related Internal Documents' in Section 3 below.

SECTION 2

Policy Principles

10. Student-Centered Pathways

- 10.1 Articulation agreements offer students flexible pathways into and between IHM qualifications.
- 10.2 Both horizontal (same level) and vertical (higher level) articulation opportunities exist to support academic progression.
- 10.3 Students enter IHM through articulation without facing academic disadvantages, with IHM ensuring that granting credit must not disadvantage the student in achieving expected learning outcomes for the course of study.

11. Academic Integrity and Quality Assurance

- 11.1 Articulation arrangements maintain the integrity of the IHM qualifications.
- 11.2 Articulation arrangements align with the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).
- 11.3 Credit can only be granted for the whole unit in accordance with Credit and Prior Learning Policy and Credit and Prior Learning Procedure.
- 11.4 All articulation pathways meet IHM's academic standards and comply with the Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF) 2021.

12. Transparency and Accessibility

- 12.1 IHM will clearly communicate, or make available, all articulation agreements and pathways through its website and course handbooks.
- 12.2 Students will receive transparent information regarding eligibility, application processes, and available credits.

13. Equity and Inclusion

- 13.1 IHM designs articulation pathways to support diverse student cohorts, including underrepresented and equity groups.
- 13.2 The process for recognition of prior learning (RPL) remains fair, transparent, and free from bias.

Articulation Arrangements

14. Types of Articulation Arrangements

- 14.1 Internal Articulation: IHM allows students to transfer between IHM courses with defined credit.
- 14.2 External Articulation: IHM establishes pathways with external institutions (both domestic and international) that align with IHM's academic standards).

15. Establishing Articulation Agreements

IHM academic staff initiate proposals for articulation agreements, and the Academic Board approves them.

A formal due diligence process evaluates new partner institutions to assess their quality and reputation.

IHM and the partner institution sign an official Articulation Agreement before implementation.

16. Criteria of Articulation Agreements

IHM adheres to the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Qualifications Pathways Policy and TEQSA Guidance notes on Credit and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to ensure transparent, equitable, and consistent articulation agreements.

IHM's articulation agreements may be based on:

Horizontal articulation, which refers to the structured progression between qualifications at the same AQF level, such as transitioning from one bachelor degree to another bachelor degree within a related discipline.

Vertical articulation, which facilitates progression between qualifications at different AQF levels, such as advancing from a Diploma to a bachelor degree.

IHM establishes credit agreements with recognised educational organisations to facilitate the seamless transition of students into AQF qualifications while ensuring comparability, equivalence, and academic integrity. Credit transfer and RPL decisions will be based on the following criteria:

Learning Outcomes: Alignment of knowledge, skills, and application of learning.

Volume of Learning: Recognition of the total hours spent on guided and independent learning.

Program of Study: Assessment of course structure, core subjects, and curriculum content.

Learning and Assessment Approaches: Consistency in instructional methodologies, assessment standards, and competency evaluation.

For articulation into AQF qualifications within the same or a related discipline, IHM applies the following credit recognition framework in line with the AQF Qualifications Pathways Policy:

50% credit for an Advanced Diploma or Associate Degree linked to a 3-year Bachelor Degree.

37.5% credit for an Advanced Diploma or Associate Degree linked to a 4-year Bachelor Degree.

33% credit for a Diploma linked to a 3-year Bachelor Degree.

25% credit for a Diploma linked to a 4-year Bachelor Degree.

17 Agreement Development Process

18.1 IHM academic staff collaborate with partner institutions to develop articulation agreements.

18.2 Each agreement details credit transfer arrangements, eligibility criteria, and course equivalencies.

18.3 The Academic Board reviews and approves all articulation agreements.

18 Quality Assurance and Monitoring

19.1 IHM will review all articulation agreements periodically to ensure ongoing relevance and compliance.

19.2 IHM will monitor student outcomes, including retention, progression, and completion rates, to evaluate the effectiveness of articulation pathways.

19 Managing Credit Transfer and RPL

20.1 When there is a standing articulation agreement between IHM and another provider, IHM may grant credit arising from RPL based on that standing arrangement.

20.2 IHM grants Credit Transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in accordance with the IHM Credit and Prior Learning Policy and Procedure

20 Termination or Modification of Agreements

21.1 IHM reviews or terminates articulation agreements if they no longer align with its academic or strategic objectives.

21.2 Both parties must agree to any modifications which require approval from the Academic Board.

Responsibilities

21 The Academic Board and the Academic Dean are responsible for the overall execution of this Policy.

22 The Student Services Team are responsible for supporting students with the credit transfer and RPL process.

SECTION 3

Associated Information

Related Internal Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit and Prior Learning Policy • Credit and Prior Learning Procedure • Student Complaints and Appeals Policy • Student Complaints and Appeals Procedure • Access and Equity Policy • Access and Equity Procedure • Admission and Enrolment Policy • Admission and Enrolment Procedure
Related Legislation, Standards, and Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tertiary Education and Quality Standards Agency Act 2011 • Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 (HESF), Domain 1 (Student Participation and Attainment, Standard 1.2 Credit and Recognition of Prior Learning), Domain 2 (Learning Environment), Domain 5 (Institutional Quality Assurance) • Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (ESOS Act) • National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 (National Code) • The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) 2013 • AQF Qualifications Pathways Policy 2013 • Australian Qualifications Framework Council 2012 (Articulation: An Explanation)
Date Approved	14/05/2025
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Date of Review	14/05/2028
Approving Authority	Academic Board

Responsible Committee for implementation	Learning and Teaching Committee
Responsibility for implementation	Academic Dean
Document Custodian	Director of Studies
IHM DocID	IHM-AP1-2.0

Change History

Version Control		Version 2.0
Change Summary	Date	Short description of the change, including version number, changes, who considered, approved, etc.
	14/12/2020	New policy, version 1
Version 1.1	05/07/2021 Version 1.1	Updated with reference to the TEQSA Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 and revised the next revision period to 3 years.
Version 1.2	28/11/2023 Version 1.2	The definitions have been relocated to the IHM glossary, and the template has been updated.
Version 2.0	05/03/2025	Updated in new template and logo, and full review after the life cycle.