

AHA TRANSITION: FURTHER EQUIVALENCY INFORMATION

The [AHA Certificate Equivalency Analysis](#) provides information about standard alternate qualifications considered by SA Health to be equivalent to Certificate 3 and 4 in Allied Health Assistance, as a minimum qualification for various Allied Health Assistant (AHA) roles within SA Health.

In addition to the qualifications analysed in the above document, some current or prospective AHA employees may hold alternate qualifications at the relevant Certificate 3 or 4 level or higher (i.e. diploma or bachelor degree). These qualifications may be considered equivalent to Certificate 3 or 4 in Allied Health Assistance, where the qualification held is directly relevant to the work role undertaken by the employee.

In such cases, the alternate qualifications must be considered by local management on a case by case basis to confirm that the skills/knowledge provided by the qualification align with the skills/knowledge required by the employee's specific work role. Such qualifications, if deemed equivalent for the fulfilment of a particular AHA role will not necessarily be considered equivalent for a different scope AHA role elsewhere in the service or in SA Health.

Alternate qualifications that can be considered for equivalency include (but are not limited to):

- An allied health professional qualification (gained within or outside of Australia)
- An AHA qualification gained in the United Kingdom
- Bachelor of Human Movement and Health Studies
- Bachelor of Nursing
- Certificate 4 in Fitness
- Current undergraduate study in an allied health profession
- Diploma in Fitness
- Diploma of Nursing
- Diploma of Orthotic and Prosthetic Technology
- Diploma of Rehabilitation
- Graduate Certificate in Human Nutrition

Examples where individual equivalency may be approved through a Local Health Network decision-making process:

- 1) An employee who holds the Certificate 4 or Diploma in Fitness working as an Exercise Physiology Assistant, whose role predominantly requires leading group fitness classes.
- 2) An employee who completed a Physiotherapy qualification overseas working as a Physiotherapy assistant.
- 3) A second year Occupational Therapy undergraduate student working as an Occupational Therapy Assistant.

In these or similar cases, if the AHA were to move to a new role with a different scope of practice, the equivalency of the qualification would need to be reviewed against the new work role.

Where local management is unable to clearly determine the relevance of the qualification held to the work role currently undertaken by the employee, a formal Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process facilitated by a Registered Training Organisation may be more suitable to confirm equivalency of qualification.