

Language, Literacy and Numeracy Policy

Preamble

The purpose of the Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) Policy is to ensure that educational programs developed by Australian Pacific College/Australian Pacific Travel & Tourism/English Unlimited (the College) are in accordance with language, literacy and numeracy requirements unit descriptors and that students with special learning needs are adequately supported through the completion of their course.

In keeping with Government legislation in relation to access and equity and the College's policy on access and equity, the College undertakes to provide language, literacy and numeracy support for students who may require such support.

The College has a high proportion of overseas students with English as a second language. All our courses are delivered in English so it is essential that students have adequate language, literacy and numeracy skills to cope with the demands of the course in which they enrol.

Scope

This policy applies to all College staff involved in the development, delivery, assessment and review of training. The following sources were considered in the development of this policy:

- Standards for Registered Training Organisations (SRTO2015)
- Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
- Training.gov.au website

Aim

The aim of this policy and procedure is to ensure that Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) needs identified in each training package are developed into the learner materials and assessment tools. It also aims to give Trainers and Assessors information on how to identify students with special learning needs and the resources to adequately support them through the completion of their training.

Definitions

Language: the tools we used to communicate with one another in many different situations and for many different reasons. Language involves speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Literacy: the ability to read and use written information. It means being able to recognise, read and interpret documents, signs etc.

Numeracy: involves being able to carry out mathematical operations and includes knowing when to use mathematics, what mathematics to use and how to do it.

Policy

The College has the responsibility to ensure that:

- LLN needs are identified and developed within the course materials and assessment tools by qualified Trainers and Assessors
- relevant employees are provided with the necessary training to ensure they have the skills required to manage with LLN issues as they arise

- administration staff will endeavour to ascertain students LLN information prior to course commencement and;
- in the event that a Trainer and/or Assessor identifies students with LLN difficulties, they implement appropriate strategies to assist them with their learning and;
- students are provided with advice and support services in the provision of LLN assistance services
- the confidentiality of students who require additional support services and appropriate strategies are in accordance with our Privacy Policy
- students or potential students who have been identified as requiring support with LLN are not discriminated
- those students that require or request additional LLN support are referred to professional organisations

For entry to Vocational courses overseas students with English as a second language must be able to demonstrate an English proficiency equivalent to 5.5 IELTS. In addition VET students should provide evidence of completion of Year 11 or equivalent to demonstrate that their literacy and numeracy skills are adequate. Provision of evidence of recent study or employment that requires literacy and numeracy skills will be acceptable. If students are unable to provide this evidence the college may require them to undertake an aptitude test to assess literacy and numeracy levels.

The College requests that students notify the College of any special assistance they may require in relation to literacy and numeracy. If additional charges apply e.g. for a scribe or for additional equipment, the college undertakes to notify the student prior to the commencement of the course.

The College recognises that assistance with literacy and numeracy and language, may be necessary during some courses or programs as on-going language support is critical to the retention and success of overseas students.

Implementation

1. The academic management staff are responsible for acting upon information obtained in the Enrolment Form where LLN and other individual needs are identified. Where individual needs are identified, action can be taken during the delivery of the training program and the assessment process to assist the participant by way of:
 - Discussion between participant and academic management team member to identify participants' particular needs
 - Reasonable adjustment of the training program delivery and assessment methods to suit these needs.
 - One-on-one support provided during the training program, delivery and progress monitored by the academic management staff to promote successful learning outcomes.
2. Identification of training needs is to be based on the English language literacy and numeracy competencies, which are needed to participate effectively in the College's training programs. The College will endeavour to obtain LLN information before commencement of the course/unit although the participant's individual needs may not be identified until after the course /unit has commenced.
3. The College endeavours to equip the participant to write sufficiently to undertake the tasks of the profession. The Principal Academic Manager will consult with the Compliance Officer to analyse

necessary requirements to meet the participant's individual needs. Where these needs cannot be met, a refund will be given to the participant.

4. Where support needs to go beyond what can be met with reasonable adjustment during the training and assessment process, and additional support is required, the College will direct participants to an external literacy specialist.
5. Students are requested to declare any learning disabilities/ language requirements as a part of the enrolment process. Once such requirements are identified, relevant staff are alerted to the students' requirements and remedial processes can be implemented.
6. The College assesses the student's English language skills in an initial assessment session prior to commencement of each term. These results are collated and 'at risk' students are identified. Students with insufficient English proficiency are required to undertake additional English studies;
7. Students are offered specified assistance in the form of study skills and tutorial sessions. These are incorporated into the academic program over each semester. These sessions may have a particular emphasis on essay and report writing, writing skills, referencing and plagiarism. As a follow up, individual tuition is provided on a one-to-one basis geared to the needs of each student. This may include assistance with oral presentations, editing of assignments and preparation techniques for exams. This support is provided during option classes at the School of English which provides language support for the students. At risk students are also encouraged to attend Writers' Workshop lessons.
8. All students and relevant College staff are informed of this policy and procedure. Copies of this policy and procedure are in the policy and procedures manual and published on the College website
9. All information relating to participants gathered during needs identification, training and evaluation will remain confidential.
10. Participants will have access to any information gathered by the College about them as defined in the College's Privacy Policy and Procedure.

Review

The policy will be reviewed as part of the three-year policy review cycle.