



## Accredited Prior Learning (APL) – Information Fact Sheet

### **Introduction**

The purpose of this guidance is to inform registrants who do not currently hold the academic credits at the relevant levels to access degree level modules. This information applies primarily to Nursing and Midwifery registrants who hold professional registration qualification, and those registrants who have obtained their Nursing / Midwifery registration award overseas. Both of these groups may have considerable experience and/or have undertaken a range of learning activities throughout their career.

This may include a registered nurse who:

- would like to undertake further study
- has previously obtained a diploma
- obtained their training and academic qualifications outside the United Kingdom (UK)

### **What is Accreditation of Prior Learning?**

The accreditation of prior learning (APL) refers to the formal recognition, assessment and award of credit for all prior learning, experience and knowledge.

APL recognises learning in a number of formats:

- learning which was formally assessed and for which academic award has been obtained and /or
- the experiential knowledge and skill which have been developed through professional practice

### **The APL Process**

#### *Stage 1 - Individual preparation*

To determine your individual pathway, please refer to the flow chart overleaf (Figure 1).

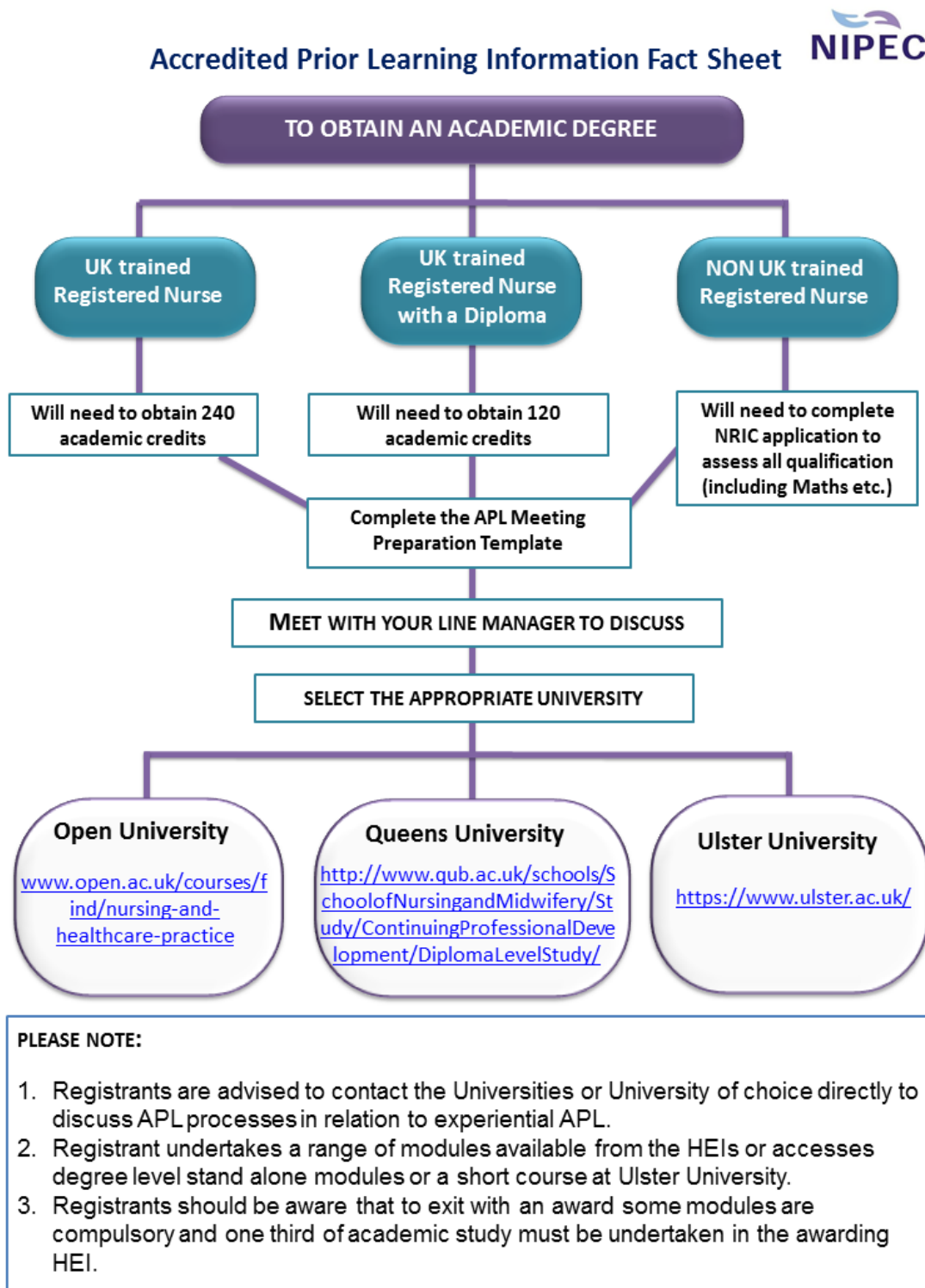
Using the **Preparation Template** (Appendix 1) a registrant will evaluate what their current professional registration award and prior learning may be worth in terms of academic credits. It will therefore be necessary to consider all prior learning undertaken including certificate of awards.

The recognition / value of certificated prior learning can be established by contacting National Recognition Information Centre (NRIC) at <https://www.naric.org.uk>. This is a National Agency, working on behalf of the UK Government, to provide a range of services comparing international qualifications. Please note that there is a charge for this service and it is the responsibility of the individual to meet this cost.

Stage 2 - Preparation with manager

Using the Preparation template (Appendix 1) as a guide/agenda, the registrant should discuss with their manager to consider the next steps.

**Figure 1: Pathways to obtaining an academic degree**



## Accredited Prior Learning (APL) - Meeting Preparation Template

Use this information to discuss options with professional line manager

Name		
Current post		
Current Academic Qualification (evidenced by certificate/diploma etc.)		
Name Of Course Complete	Course Provider	Year Completed
Details of experiential learning (Recognised knowledge and skills developed through work experience)		
Summary of outcome of discussion		
Action Plan		
		Date
Applicants signature		
Managers Signature		
<b>Please bring a copy of the completed form to the University</b>		