



## RPL - AN OVERVIEW

Head Office  
PO Box 362  
HYDE PARK  
TOWNSVILLE Q 4812  
Phone (07) 4725 4571  
Fax (07) 4725 4312  
Email: info@paci.com.au  
Web: www.paci.com.au

A.C.N. 061 622 151

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLIMBING INSTRUCTORS**

Registered Training Organisation Quality Assured ISO 9002 Australia-wide Insurance Scheme

Recognition of prior learning (RPL) is an acknowledgment that people learn in many different ways throughout their lifetime. RPL, which includes the recognition of current competency (RCC) and takes into account a person's skills and experiences, no matter where these were learnt, to enable people to get credit in a course of study or a particular qualification.

You should consider the experience you have gained in each of the three categories listed below:

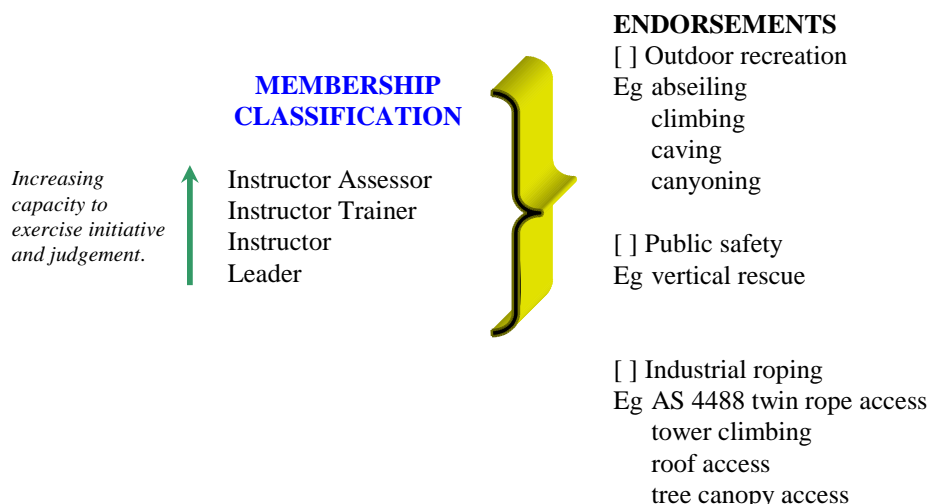
1. Your work experience
  - including paid or unpaid
  - full-time and part-time, etc.
2. Your education and training
  - including formal accredited training
  - informal training
  - training gained through work (on-the-job training), etc.
3. Your life experience
  - including leisure, recreation, hobbies, etc.

As you work through the RPL process, there is one question that you will be asking yourself:

*.....How can I prove that I can meet the requirements for a particular qualification level or PACI membership?*

The answer will depend on which membership classification and/or endorsement you are seeking.

PACI has a range of membership classifications and endorsements to choose from. Membership classifications and endorsements include:



Endorsements specify the scope in which a member can operate. For example, a climbing leader may be endorsed for artificial walls only, while a lead climbing instructor may be endorsed for single-pitch applications (ie not multi-pitch).

You should select a membership classification and range of endorsements that accurately reflect your experience and current level of knowledge and skill. The higher the membership level, the more evidence is required to prove your competence.

## TYPES OF EVIDENCE

Three types of evidence can be submitted: direct, supplementary and indirect. Some examples are presented below.

**Direct evidence** – shows the applicants own work, for example:

- Program or session plans, written reports, manuals or learning resource materials
- Video tape or audio tape of the applicant demonstrating his/her skills

**Supplementary evidence** – is information about the participant that is gathered from others. For example:

- References, testimonial letters from past clients
- Course awards/certificates, statements of attainment, prizes or awards that have been received
- Statutory declarations

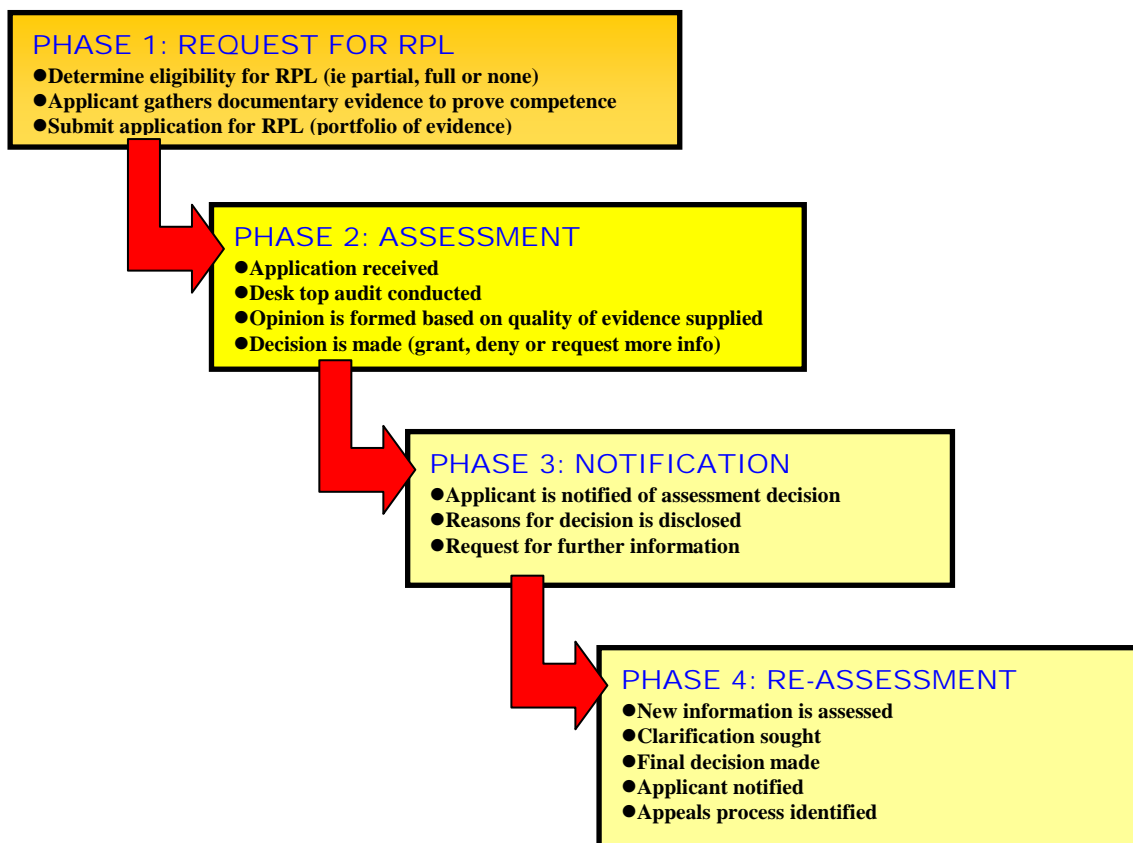
**Indirect evidence** – is used when it is not possible or desirable for the applicant to be assessed on their actual performance of tasks. For example:

- Role-plays or simulations

The evidence that you provide must be presented in an **evidence portfolio**. The portfolio is similar in concept to a resume or CV and should contain all the information required to prove your competence.

The portfolio that you submit as part of your application is known as *primary* evidence. Sometimes, the primary evidence is not sufficient to prove competence against the particular membership classification and endorsement being applied for. In these instances, the RPL assessor may request additional evidence. This evidence is known as *secondary* evidence because it has been submitted in response to the RPL assessor's request.

**Requests for RPL will be processed according to the following procedure:**



# CATEGORIES of RPL ASSESSMENT for PACI MEMBERSHIP

When applying for RPL in a leadership capacity, you must ensure that you can satisfy each of the categories indicated below. Evidence (ie proof) must be supplied. Your application is assessed by PACI and an initial decision is made based on the quality and content of your submission. If necessary, additional information is requested. Assessment decisions are based on a comparison of your submitted evidence against the PACI units of competency and desired membership classification (ie leader, instructor, instructor trainer & instructor assessor).

