



FOAE WORKPLACE LEARNING – HUMAN SERVICES – PPA PROCESS

(FOR STUDENTS IN THE BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK & MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK - PROFESSIONAL QUALIFYING)

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE ASSESSMENT (PPA)

The Australian Association of Social Workers ([AASW](#)) and Charles Sturt University support the recognition of students' previous industry experience. Our PPA process replaces what was previously referred to as 'Recognition of Prior Learning' (RPL) and is **ONLY applicable** to students enrolled in the **Social Work Field Education 1** subjects (HCS303 or HCS505).

For students who undertake PPA, the primary focus of their second placement must be direct practice.

In the PPA strand of Social Work Field Education 1, students complete a series of assessments in which they reflect on their practice experience. These reflections enable students to demonstrate how they meet the AASW practice standards and are developing their professional identity as beginning social workers.

For more information on PPA please refer to the [Social Work Field Education at CSU Handbook](#).

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for PPA, the student must have worked for at least three years (FTE equivalent) in a health or welfare setting that would be deemed appropriate as a field education setting for a first placement student. At least the final year of the student's work experience must be within three years of applying for PPA.

The student must demonstrate a workload similar to tasks carried out by social workers, such as risk assessment, counselling, case management and community work.

To be assessed for eligibility, please supply a copy of your resume / curriculum vitae (CV). You need to clearly demonstrate in your resume / CV:

- how long you have held each position from month and year to month and year
- indicate the number of hours worked per week in each position
- provide job descriptions for the relevant periods (see points above)

Please email these documents to the **Workplace Learning (WPL) office** - HumanServices-WPL@csu.edu.au and one of our team members will consult with you regarding your eligibility.

Please check your eligibility prior to Session 1 commencing.

REGISTRATION

Social Work Field Education 1, is a year-long subject and students need to enrol in both Session 1 and Session 2 when undertaking PPA. Assessment tasks are spread throughout the year.

Once a student is correctly enrolled, they will be invited to upload mandatory compliance documents to InPlace and complete an online registration form indicating they are completing the PPA strand.

PPA ASSESSMENTS

Assessment will involve:

- A demonstration of how you have met the outcomes of the Social Work Field Education 1 subject.
- An analysis of the social work theories that have informed your practice
- Critical reflection on your values, ethical dilemmas in practice and your emerging social work identity

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Workplace Learning (WPL) Office
02 6933 2784 or HumanServices-WPL@csu.edu.au

Workplace Learning Website:
[Social Work-School of Humanities and Social Sciences](#)

