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Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a mode of providing recognition to the informal learning or learning through work to get equal acceptance as the formal levels of education. It aims to appreciate prior learning irrespective of the medium of achieving it. In short, RPL is a process of assessment of an individual's prior learning to give due importance to learning as an outcome rather than learning as process.

To ensure that the candidates being assessed under RPL are also oriented to the standardized NSQF levels, QP-NOSs that would be followed under RPL will be same as the one followed under fresh training. Further, to ensure the acceptance of RPL in Indian market, various pilots have been conducted by different sector skill councils and NSDA and the learning are incorporated while preparing the guidelines for RPL in the PMKVY.

Under PMKVY, special focus is given to RPL by recognizing prior competencies of the assessed candidates and provides a certificate and monetary reward on successful completion of assessments. Average monetary reward under RPL would be around Rs.2,000-2,500 per candidate. Following allocation has been done under RPL in the PradhanMantriKaushalVikasYojana (PMKVY).

It is mandated that following reward amount be left for the trainee. This will encourage the trainee to participate in the process of RPL. Trainee can choose from the job roles available under RPL trainee program from the respective Sector Skill Council.

Guidelines and Implementation Strategy

Under RPL, the candidate can be certified in two ways:

Full Qualification

In this scenario, a candidate enrolled under RPL is assessed as per the assessment criteria of the QP-NOS of the selected job role. If the candidate clears competency based assessment under the designated Job Role, candidate is awarded a "Full Qualification" Certificate.

Partial Qualification

NOS Based Certification under this scenario, a candidate enrolled under RPL is assessed as per the same QP-NOS. The SSCs have to define the minimum assessment criteria that the trainee has to attain for the QP-NOS in order to get NOS based certificate.

Process to apply for Pre-screening for RPL under PMKVY

Step 1: Check the sector skill council website and approach the registered training provider. NSDC helpline or sector skill council can also be approached for this.

Step 2: Training Provider (TP) needs to pre-screen the candidate for the QP concerned. TP conducts the pre-screening and assesses the competency/readiness of the candidate for RPL QP Assessment. In some cases sector skill councils also have online prescreening assessment at a nominal cost where candidates are required to be register either directly or through training provider.

Step 3: Post the pre-screening assessment, candidates will receive their scorecard on clicking on the submit button; TP can decide to register the candidate for RPL QP assessments based on the candidates pre-screening performance.

For detailed guidelines, visit Guidelines Recognition of Prior Learning

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