

Work Integrated Learning Policy

Purpose

1. The purpose of this policy is to set out the principles underpinning the development and management of work integrated learning activities (WIL) undertaken by UniSA students.
2. This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Work Integrated Learning Procedure and other associated documentation.

Scope

3. This policy applies to all WIL activities (as defined below) undertaken by UniSA coursework and research degree students.

Responsibilities

4. Academic Board is the approving authority for this policy.
5. The Chief Academic Services Officer is responsible for organisation-wide adherence to this policy. Deans of Programs (or delegates), or in the case of research degree students, Deans of Research (or delegates), are responsible for ensuring effective management of WIL in each Academic Unit.
6. All University students, staff and representatives are expected to comply with the provisions of this policy and with all associated procedures and guidelines.

Policy Principles

7. The University recognises the value of WIL activities and will advance its position as a national leader in career-ready education by building relationships with community organisations, industry, business, and government to provide WIL opportunities to coursework and research degree students.
8. The University will ensure that WIL activities undertaken by UniSA students comply with the requirements of all relevant University policies, as well as relevant legislative and regulatory instruments.
9. WIL activities undertaken by UniSA coursework and research degree students will form part of a coherent program of study that is grounded in authoritative educational research. They will be authentic work-based activities that integrate theory with practice and will involve engagement with an industry, business, government and/or community partner. All coursework WIL activities will have clearly articulated learning outcomes and assessments consistent with these outcomes.

10. WIL activities that form part of requirements for professional accreditation/registration will be designed to align with these requirements and be regularly evaluated to ensure continued alignment.
11. WIL activities will be subject to rigorous quality assurance as part of the University's overarching quality assurance processes. As part of the University's usual processes, students will be given opportunities to provide feedback regarding their experience of WIL activities and will have access to clearly defined student grievance processes.
12. The design and delivery of WIL activities must, where possible, enable the participation of all students. In line with legislative requirements relating to equity and disability, and associated University policy, reasonable accommodations will be made for students where this can be achieved without breaching discipline specific inherent requirements.
13. WIL activities that are provided in conjunction with a third party must be governed by a formal agreement between the University and the third party provider.
14. Academic Units may, in some cases, permit students to identify WIL opportunities with third party providers. However, no student may undertake any WIL activity that has not been risk assessed and formally arranged by the University.
15. Students undertaking WIL activities will be monitored and supervised by the University, and the third party provider where applicable, to provide necessary support and to ensure student well-being and safety. Agreements with third party providers must include provisions relating to supervision and support for students.
16. Student participation in WIL activities will be subject to compliance with all relevant University policies and procedures, as well as any requirements specific to a given activity. Students must be provided with clear information about any specific requirements and the processes in place to demonstrate compliance within the necessary timelines.
17. The University may refuse to allow participation in a WIL activity or may withdraw a student from a WIL activity where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a student presents a risk to themselves or others by virtue of their participation.

Definitions

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) enables coursework and research degree students to learn and apply disciplinary knowledge through engagement with industry and community partners in authentic activities that integrate theory with practice within a purposefully designed curriculum or research project.*

WIL activities incorporated into coursework programs must demonstrate **all** the following characteristics:

- students engage with an industry and/or community partner;
- students undertake authentic work-based learning activities with the partner which align with agreed learning outcomes; and
- students are assessed in relation to these authentic activities against the agreed learning outcomes.

The University will also co-ordinate opportunities for research degree students to undertake WIL activities that aim to enhance relevant disciplinary expertise and research capability but will not be assessed.

*Aviation flight training is included in the scope of this definition and is therefore also included in the scope of the Procedures associated with this Policy.

Associated Documentation

[Work Integrated Learning General Procedure](#)

[Fitness for Work Integrated Learning Procedure](#)

[Assessment Policy and Procedures](#)

- **Officer Responsible for Update and Review:** Registrar and Director: Student and Academic Services
- **Approving Authority:** Academic Board
- **Commencement Date:** 25 March 2022
- **Review Date:** March 2027
- **History:** Approved by Academic Board, 25 March 2022; Associated Documentation amended 27 February 2023; minor amendment approved by Registrar and Director: Student and Academic Services, 9 March 2023