



MAHSA
UNIVERSITY



APEL.Q

route to a

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

KPT/JPS (R2/345/7/0188) (MQA/FA 1701) 06/27

TRANSFORMING EDUCATION AND UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES

The Ministry of Education in Malaysia has introduced the APEL Q (Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning Qualification) programme to provide individuals with an alternative pathway to pursue higher education. APEL Q recognizes the value of individuals' prior learning and experiences, allowing them to obtain formal qualifications based on their skills and knowledge acquired through non-traditional means.

Understanding APEL.Q

APEL Q is designed to cater to individuals who possess substantial work experience but lack formal qualifications. It provides an opportunity to bridge the gap between work experience and academic qualifications, enabling individuals to access higher education and unlock new career prospects.

Eligibility for MBA via APEL.Q

Malaysians and Non-Malaysians adult learners with relevant prior experiential learning.

Applicants must fulfil a minimum of **20 years** working experience at the appropriate level in the relevant field.



Benefits of APEL Q

Recognition of Prior Learning

APEL Q acknowledges the knowledge and skills individuals have acquired through their work experience, training programs, and self-directed learning. It offers a formal recognition of these competencies, allowing individuals to receive accreditation for their prior learning. This recognition serves as a testament to their expertise and capabilities, enhancing their employability and career advancement opportunities.

Enhanced Career Opportunities

APEL Q opens up new career opportunities for individuals who may have been limited by the lack of formal qualifications. By obtaining recognized qualifications through APEL Q, individuals can enhance their professional credibility and competitiveness in the job market. They can pursue higher-level positions, switch career paths, or even start their own businesses with the added advantage of formal qualifications.

Flexible Pathway to Higher Education

APEL Q provides a flexible and inclusive pathway to higher education. It eliminates the need for individuals to undergo a traditional academic route, which may not be feasible for those who have been out of formal education for an extended period. By recognizing prior experiential learning, APEL Q allows individuals to bypass certain entry requirements and gain direct entry into higher education programs.

Cost and Time Savings

For individuals who have already acquired substantial knowledge and skills through their work or life experiences, APEL Q offers a cost-effective and time-saving option. It eliminates the need to start from scratch and complete a full program, allowing individuals to focus on acquiring specific qualifications that complement their existing expertise. This can significantly shorten the duration and reduce the financial burden of education.

MBA through APEL-Q:

Stage 1:

Application Process

Applicants are required to submit the following items:

- 1** A completed application form: This form includes personal information, educational background, and details of prior learning and experiences.
- 2** A comprehensive portfolio: The portfolio serves as evidence of the individual's prior learning and experiences. It should include relevant certificates, work samples, testimonials, and any other supporting documents that demonstrate the acquisition of knowledge and skills.
- 3** Reflective statements: Applicants are typically required to write reflective statements that articulate how their prior learning and experiences are relevant to the chosen field of study. These statements should showcase critical thinking, self-awareness, and the ability to connect theory with practice.

Stage 2:

Submission and Evaluation

Once all the required documentation is prepared, applicants must submit their APEL-Q application to MAHSA University within the designated timeframe. The evaluation process begins after the submission deadline. APEL-Q coordinators or assessors will review the portfolio, reflective statements, and other supporting documents to assess the applicant's suitability for the program.

Stage 3:

Interview and Assessment

Applicants may be required to attend an interview or assessment as part of the APEL-Q application process. The purpose of this interview or assessment is to further evaluate the applicant's knowledge, skills, and competencies.

Once the interview and assessment have been conducted, the applicant's performance and evidence of prior learning are evaluated by a panel of experts. This panel carefully examines the applicant's portfolio, which includes documentation and evidence of their learning experiences, such as work samples, certifications, and testimonials.

After the panel has reviewed the portfolio, they will make a decision regarding the applicant's eligibility for APEL Q. There are three possible outcomes at this stage: accreditation, partial accreditation, or non-accreditation. Accreditation means that the applicant's prior learning is recognised as equivalent to the learning outcomes of the qualification they are seeking. Partial accreditation means that some, but not all, of the learning outcomes have been recognized. Non-accreditation means that the applicant's prior learning does not meet the requirements for accreditation.

If the applicant is accredited, they will proceed to the next step, which involves the compilation of an APEL Q report. This report is a detailed document that outlines the applicant's prior learning and how it aligns with the learning outcomes of the qualification. It also includes a reflection on the applicant's learning journey and the impact of their prior learning on their personal and professional development. Once the APEL Q report is completed, it is submitted to the relevant authorities for further evaluation. This evaluation involves a thorough review of the report by a panel of assessors who specialize in the field of study. The assessors carefully examine the report and consider its alignment with the learning outcomes of the qualification.

Based on the assessors' evaluation, a decision will be made regarding the final accreditation status of the applicant. This decision can result in full accreditation, partial accreditation, or non-accreditation. If the applicant is fully accredited, they will be awarded the qualification they are seeking based on their prior learning experiences.

Process & Timeline

Duration

6 months minimum

Award of Qualification

APEL Q shall be awarded through assessment of prior experiential learning and successful completion of the Capstone course(s)

Month	Process	Weightage
1	1. Filing Admission Application 2. Self-assessment Test 3. Enrol to Research methodology audit course 4. Start preparing the Portfolio	
2	1. Portfolio Assessment 2. Start preparing for Capstone Project	20%
3	1. Field Validation Visit 2. Continue doing Capstone Project	20%
4	1. Challenge Test 2. Continue doing Capstone Project	30%
5	1. Continue doing Capstone Project	
6	1. Continue doing Capstone Project	30%

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