

Purpose

1. The purpose of this policy, and the associated procedures, is to define the principles underlying the University's development and delivery of short courses, short programs, and microcredentials, and to specify requirements relating to their approval and administration.
2. This policy is to be read in conjunction with the [Short Course and Short Program Procedures](#) and other associated documents

Scope

3. This policy applies to all short forms of learning offered by the University.

Exclusions

4. This policy does not apply to award courses and programs offered by the University.

Responsibilities

5. Academic Board is the approving authority for this policy.
6. Academic Unit Boards (or delegate) are responsible for approving short forms of learning, and for annually approving continuation or discontinuation.
7. The Provost and Chief Academic Officer is responsible for organisation-wide adherence to this policy.
8. All University staff and representatives are expected to comply with the provisions of this policy and with all associated procedures and guidelines.

Policy Principles

9. The University is committed to its strategic objectives related to enterprise engagement with external stakeholders. The development and delivery of short forms of learning are an important element of this engagement. The University will focus on developing short forms of learning that align with its research strengths and which build critical skills for professional and community benefit.
10. The University will ensure that short forms of learning are subject to an annual quality assurance process that leads to either continuation for a further twelve-month period or discontinuation of the course or program.

11. Those enrolled in short courses, short programs and microcredentials will be regarded as students of the University and will have the rights and responsibilities set out in the [Code of Conduct for Students](#).

Definitions

Short course is a form of learning (assessed or non-assessed) which delivers curriculum content but is not an award course.

Short program is two or more short courses offered in combination to achieve a defined set of learning outcomes.

A **Microcredential** is a defined set of focused, industry recognised small packets of learning which evidence achievement of skills, knowledge, and attributes in a discrete area of learning. Microcredentials are non-award qualifications.

A **'Q credit'** is a discrete packet in which a learner is expected to engage in the acquisition of knowledge and skills for a defined set of structured learning activities. The Q credit model ensures that microcredentials issued by UniSA have the capacity to be credit bearing and hold a relationship to the AQF.

Associated Documentation

[Short Course and Short Program Procedures](#)

[Microcredentials Procedures](#)

[Enrolment Policy](#)

[Recognition of Prior Learning Policy](#)

[Code of Conduct for Students](#)

- **Officer Responsible for Update and Review:** Registrar and Director: Student & Academic Services
- **Approving Authority:** Academic Board, 28 May 2021
Amendment approved by Academic Board, 24 November 2023
- **Commencement Date:** 28 May 2021
- **Review Date:** May 2026
- **History:** This policy and associated Procedures supercede and replace the former A-53 Short Programs, Executive Certificates and Professional Certificates Policy