

## **GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (FORMAL, INFORMAL, AND NON-FORMAL)**

Students who have attained certain knowledge and skills through prior learning may apply for recognition if they wish these knowledge and skills to be recognised as part of the fulfilled study obligations in the current study programme. The recognition considers the achieved learning outcomes and not the manner and place in which knowledge and skills were attained, since competences may be acquired in different settings, through formal education and through everyday experiences and work.

**Formal education** takes place in educational institutions, where learning is systematic and based on set learning objectives. At the end, learners are awarded a diploma or a certificate indicating the knowledge they attained.

**Non-formal education** is also systematic and based on set learning objectives. It may or may not be acquired in educational institutions. Learners are granted a certificate proving the acquisition of knowledge or skills through courses, workshops, seminars, etc., however, these educational activities do not provide a formal level of education or a qualification. In Slovenia, non-formal education is typically offered by various independent educational organisations or is in the form of training offered at workplaces.

**Informal education** refers to learning that takes place during activities at work, at home (self-education, hobbies), and in everyday life. It is neither systematic nor based on set learning objectives. It is a spontaneous process based on experience. Learners are not granted a certificate indicating the knowledge they have gained.

Students may apply for the recognition of prior learning if the acquired knowledge is equivalent to the learning outcomes of the study programme.

The procedures and criteria for the recognition of prior learning are set in the **Rules on the Recognition of Knowledge and Skills in Study Programmes of the University of Maribor**, which are available at the [my.um.si](http://my.um.si) website > Study > [Rules and Regulations](#).