

STADIO



POLICY ON CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

Reference Number:	ACAD 018A
Body responsible for Final Approval:	Senate
Management Approval:	CEO Signature
Date of Final Approval:	13 August 2021
Date of Implementation:	15 August 2021
Revision Date:	2023
Previous Revisions:	n/a
Policy Owner:	Chief Academic Officer
Institutional functionary responsible:	Dean: Teaching, Learning & Student Success

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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This policy governs the implementation of Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) at STADIO, aligned to its academic promise and organisational strategy. STADIO will actively facilitate the transfer of credits awarded towards qualifications registered on the NQF and offered by recognised providers of education and training in South Africa.
- 1.2 The implementation and management of CAT at STADIO will embrace the values and strategic objectives as stated in STADIO's mission.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1 The policy applies to all higher education qualifications offered at STADIO.

3. DEFINITIONS

Credit	means the amount of learning contained in a qualification whereby one (1) credit is equated to ten (10) notional hours of learning
Credit accumulation	refers to the totalling of credits towards the completion of a qualification.
Credit transfer	refers to the vertical, horizontal or diagonal relocation of credits towards a qualification.
Credit accumulation and transfer (CAT)	means the practice of accumulating credits from one or more cognate learning programmes in an institution, and transferring those credits to be recognised towards a qualification/ part-qualification in the same or a different institution
Recognition of Prior Learning	means the principles and processes through which the prior knowledge and skills of a person are made visible, mediated and assessed for the purposes of alternative access and admission, recognition and certification, or further learning and development.

4. PRINCIPLES OF CAT

- 4.1 STADIO's application of CAT will adhere to the following principles:
- a) Transparency;
 - b) Articulation by design;
 - c) Access to credit accumulation;
 - d) The recognition of credit, and credit transfer;
 - e) Quality comparisons based on credible methods; and
 - f) Availability of information via STADIO's website and other relevant and readily accessible public spaces as applicable, prior to student enrolment.

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF CAT

- 5.1 STADIO will set a clear standard operating procedure to support the Policy.
- 5.2 The recognition of credit in a CAT process may only be considered for credits previously awarded towards a qualification or part-qualification registered on the NQF and offered by a recognised provider in South Africa.
- 5.3 A maximum of 50% of the credits of a completed qualification may be transferred to another qualification. All the credits from an incomplete qualification may be transferred to another qualification, provided that no more than 50% of the total credits are awarded via CAT on the receiving qualification.
- 5.4 In the CAT recognition evaluation process the comparison mapping must indicate a minimum of 80% overlap between the original content and outcomes of the module for which credits have already been awarded, and the module/ subject for which CAT is being sought.
- 5.5 Quality comparison mapping must:
- a) enable adequate comparison mapping based on detailed information - transcripts alone are insufficient;

- b) be based on credible methods that determine the extent to which the curriculum content and outcomes match, as guided by the NQF Level Descriptors in conjunction with the quality standards developed and published by the CHE;
- c) take into account the purpose, NQF level and credits of each qualification; and
- d) consider the degree of similarity between the content and outcomes for which credits have already been awarded, and those in the qualification towards which credits is being sought, to ensure that learners have the necessary knowledge and backgrounds to be successful in further learning.

5.6 Where the CAT comparison process finds overlaps of less than 80% between the content and outcomes for which credits have already been awarded, and the STADIO modules for which CAT is sought, STADIO:

- a) may choose to not recognise any credit accumulated, and must provide advice and guidance on other learning pathway possibilities for the candidate, or
- b) may conduct a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process to assess the informal and non-formal knowledge and skills of the applicant that may address the gap, or
- c) may require the learner to do supplementary work before credits are recognised where reasonably practical.

5.7 Credits obtained from studies for non-degree purposes comprising of modules that are part of a programme which normally leads to qualifications registered on the HEQSF should count for the credit accumulation and transfer mechanism towards relevant qualifications at STADIO.

5.8 Short courses offered outside the HEQSF are non-credit bearing and, thus, individuals who register for and attend such short courses are not awarded credits against any level on the National Qualification Framework (NQF). This means no credit will be accumulated and/or transferred from such short courses. However, the learning acquired contributes to learning that may be taken into account in an RPL process.

5.9 Fees charged for CAT will be fair and equitable.

6. REFERENCES

CHE. 2016. Policies on recognition of prior learning, credit accumulation and transfer, and assessment in higher education. August 2016.

SAQA. 2021. Policy and Criteria for Credit Accumulation and Transfer within the National Qualifications Framework (As amended, 2021)