

Awarding Credit

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What will be discussed

- What is 'credit' and when is credit possible?
- What does 'equivalent' mean?
- Awarding credit when successive versions are 'Equivalent'?
- Awarding credit when equivalent units or modules have been superseded twice or more.
- What could be considered a gap?
- Conducting mapping.
- Responding to gaps.



What is 'credit'?

Standard 3.5 The RTO accepts and provides credit for learners for units of competency and/or modules (except where licensing or regulatory requirements prevent this) where these are evidenced by:

- a) AQF certification documentation issued by any other RTO or AQF authorised issuing organisation; or
- b) authenticated VET transcripts issued by the Registrar.

When is 'credit' possible?



1. The student provides evidence of holding the **current** unit of competency and/or module; and
2. The student provides evidence of holding the **superseded equivalent** unit of competency and/or module reflecting the current unit and/or module outcomes.

What does 'equivalent' mean?

Training Package developers define 'equivalent' when:

- a new **qualification** is equivalent to a superseded qualification means the occupational outcome and AQF level described by the two qualifications has not changed.
- a new **unit** is equivalent to a superseded unit means the work outcome described by the two units has not changed.

Unit of competency details

RIIMPO318F - Conduct civil construction skid steer loader operations (Release 2)

Summary

Usage recommendation: **Current**

Mapping:

| Mapping | Notes | Date |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Supersedes and is equivalent to RIIMPO318E - Conduct civil construction skid steer loader operations | Minor updates to reflect changes to operator maintenance and relocation activities. | 10/Dec/2018 |

Awarding credit when successive versions are 'Equivalent'?

RTOs can automatically award credit using the 'equivalent' determination where the unit and/or module attained by the learner **immediately precedes** the unit and/or module for which credit will be awarded.

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Awarding credit when equivalent units or modules have been superseded twice or more

Where an award of credit is sought for equivalent units and/or modules that have been superseded twice or more (e.g. there is a unit and/or modules interceding):

- the RTO must conduct a mapping process to confirm no gaps exist in the **content and learning outcomes** between the unit and/or module already attained by the learner and the unit and/or module for which the learner seeks an award of credit; and
- where a mapping process identifies gaps in the **content and learning outcomes**, no award of credit can be provided.

Chains of equivalent units



Chains of equivalent units is a process where a workplace outcome is passed from unit to unit, with small changes occurring each time, with confusing, surprising but never amusing outcomes.

Review of a sample of **equivalent** units of competency **superseded twice or more**

For the majority of units reviewed (29 out of 45 unit chains sampled), there were significant gaps between the current unit and the unit that has been superseded twice or more.



of units revealed there were significant gaps along the equivalence chain



Changes included additional performance criteria and additional knowledge evidence items relating to safe work practice.



The evidence from the sample reviewed indicates it would be unsafe to presume that equivalent units superseded twice or more could automatically be used for credit.



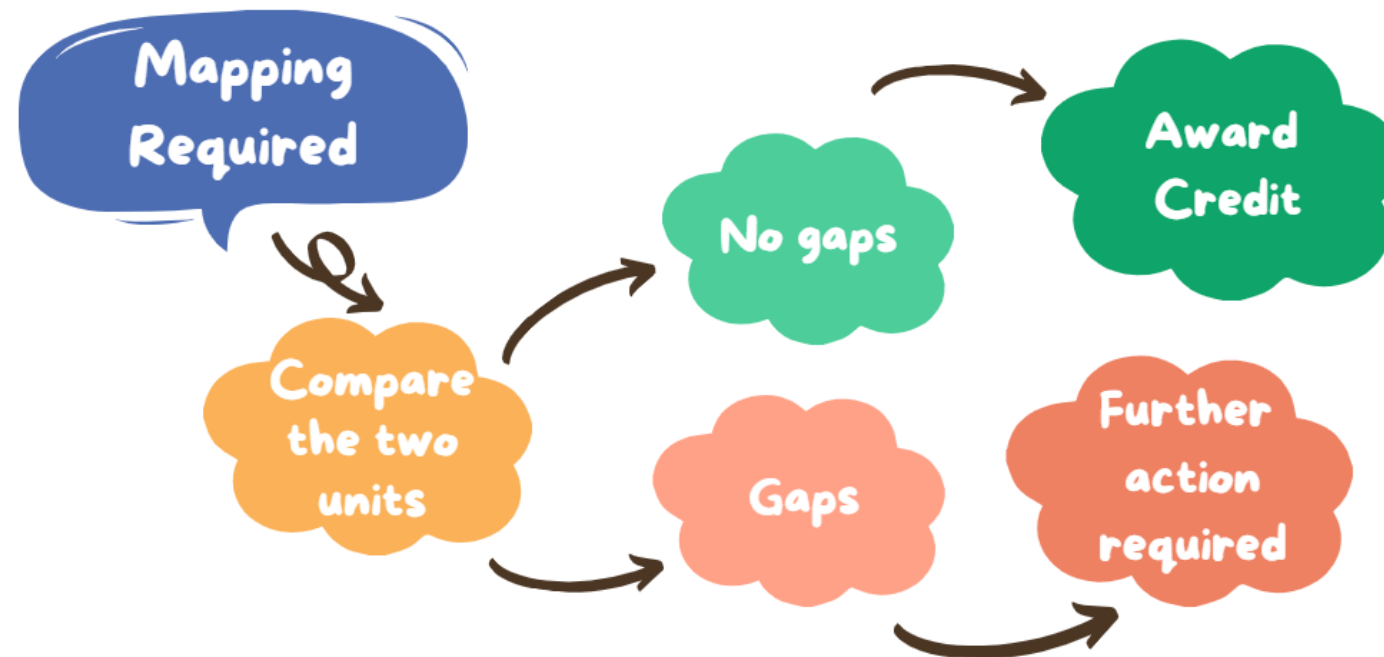
What could be considered a gap

1. Any change in an element of competency, including addition, deletion or alteration of a performance criterion.
2. A change in the function of a component
3. Any component that is in the currently required unit that is not in the unit claimed for credit.



Mapping

Ask the question: “**Is everything required in the current unit required in the superseded unit?**”



Mapping of RIIMPO318 string of units

- RIIMPO318F is the current version (2021)
- RIIMPO318E (2018)
- RIIMPO318D (2015)
- RIIMPO318B (2013)



Comparing RIIMPO318F (Release 1 2021) with RIIMPO318B (2013) reveals considerable gaps in the performance criteria, most notably relating to “safe work practices”, emergency procedures, managing and reporting hazards, communication with others, and completing documentation.

How can you respond to gaps?

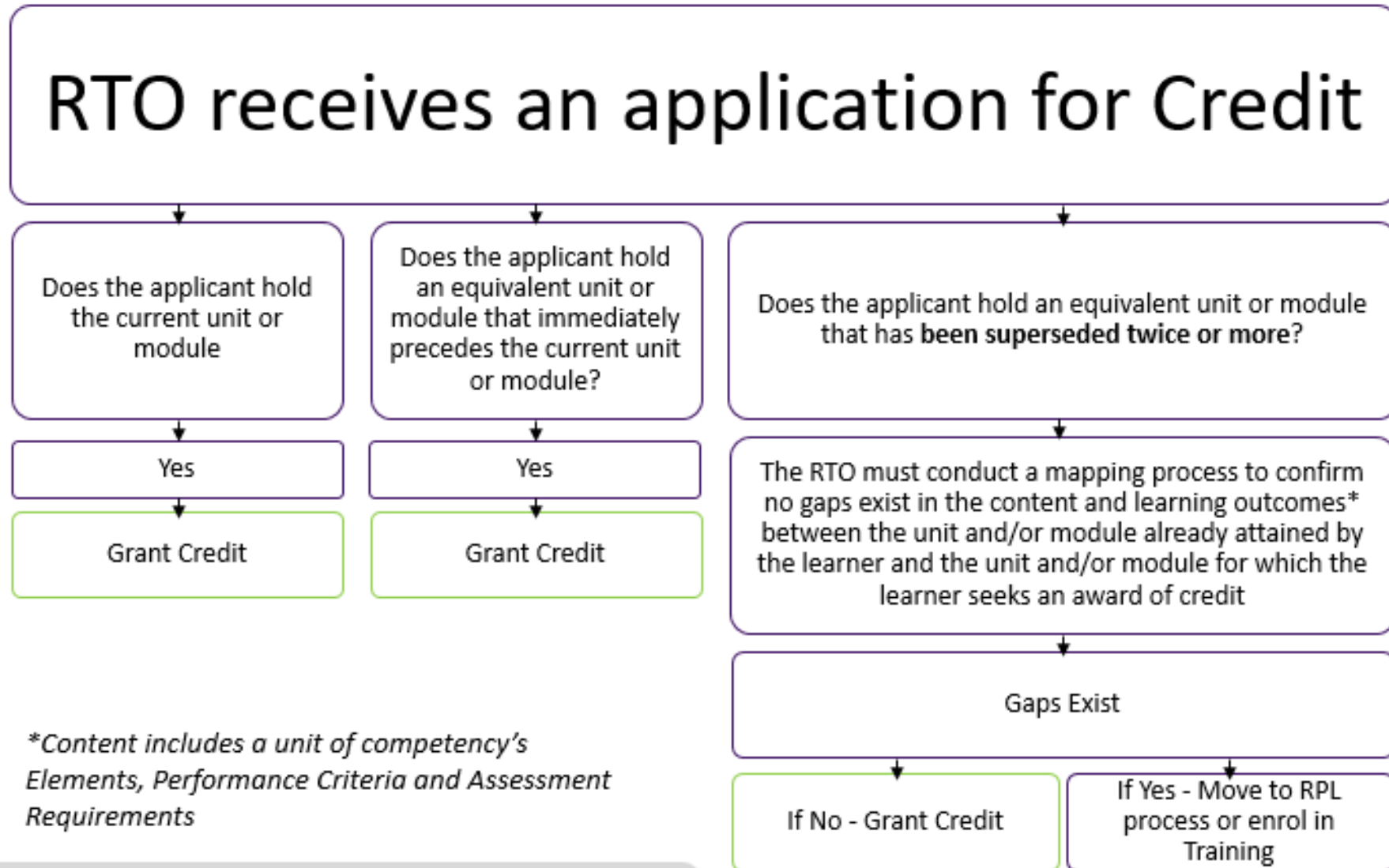
If there are any gaps, then credit **cannot** be awarded.

Options could include:

1. Look for evidence elsewhere in the unit to see if that will address the gap.
2. Look for evidence of coverage of the gap in other units of competency awarded to the student.
3. Consider whether the gap can be incorporated in the training delivery and assessment of units to be undertaken by the student.
4. Offer the student RPL for the current unit.



Overview



References

- The Standards for RTOs
- The TAC Users' Guide for the Standards
- TAC Fact Sheet: Awarding Credit
- TAC Fact Sheet: RPL
- TAC Fact Sheet: Training Product Equivalence
- TAC Special Bulletin – Awarding Credit for Equivalent UOC
- Report: Credit Transfer and Equivalence - June 2023
- Report: Consultation on RTO and Stakeholders Views on Credit - May 2023



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