



## Building Stronger Rural Communities

Do you live in a rural area, have knowledge and experience but no formal qualifications? You may be able to get credit for your existing skills and gain a nationally accredited qualification through a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) project that is part of the Stronger Rural Communities Program. C.Y. O'Connor Institute, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Food WA, is co-ordinating the program on behalf of the network of public training providers (TAFE Institutes) that service rural communities in the southern part of the State, with a focus on building resilience to future seasonal conditions for farms in the Drought Pilot area of the South West. People living outside of the Central Wheatbelt region will be referred to their local public training provider in the first instance, after registering for the program.

### What is Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)?

RPL involves assessment of your previously unrecognised life skills and knowledge. This assessment process recognises your informal learning, life and workplace experiences gained through:

- working in an industry;
- paid or unpaid work experience;
- community or volunteer work;
- membership of organisations; and
- life experience.

### What are the benefits?

The RPL process can assist you with:

- job security;
- job promotion;
- a career change;
- obtaining skilled employment; and
- finding part time/casual employment.

### Who can apply?

Please fill out the registration form linked below and return it to us via mail or email:

[www.cyoc.wa.edu.au/Documents/DAFWAForm.pdf](http://www.cyoc.wa.edu.au/Documents/DAFWAForm.pdf)

C.Y. O'Connor Institute, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Food WA, is co-ordinating the program that offers RPL free\* to the following groups of people in agriculture and allied industries:

- eligible primary producers (see definition at [www.daff.gov.au/droughtpilot](http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtpilot));
- immediate family members of primary producers;
- employed staff of primary producers;
- employees in machinery dealers and rural supplier establishments; and
- employees in agricultural service providers such as transport companies, metal fabricators, building and construction companies and equipment manufacturers.

\* There is a limit to the funding available to support this initiative, and applicants will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

