

The following questions and responses were discussed during a teleconference offered to students of Capra Ryan by ALIA staff on Wednesday 2nd June 2010.

The purpose of the teleconference was to take participants through the information available on the website and specifically, the Education and PD area which contains a list of courses available for students to review and consider in transitioning to another RTO.

ALIA's Education Manager and Executive Director provided a preamble of the role that ALIA provides to those studying and the common areas of concern that had been raised by students who were enrolled with Capra Ryan.

That introduction focused around the following points:

1. What are you going to do next in terms of how you transition to other courses?

A number of you have approached institutions regarding enrolling in equivalent courses and found from the webpage that lists accredited courses for lib techs that not all are offered in online mode. However, you may find that some are prepared to offer courses in mixed mode – with some subjects delivered online while others will only be taught in a classroom environment.

The webpage <http://www.alia.org.au/education/qualifications/> contains brief details of the qualifications at various levels available as well as an update on ALIA's understanding of Capra Ryan's decision to cease operations.

On that page is a link to the list of institutions offering accredited library technician courses that can be viewed on <http://www.alia.org.au/education/courses/library.technician.html>

The use of an asterisk beside the name of the institution indicates that they offer their course in online mode. However, please keep in mind that the other institutions may be prepared to offer their courses in mixed mode and these should also be considered.

2. Some students are finding it difficult to transfer to another institute and being told that places are not available.

It is likely that this is because the number of teaching hours and student enrolments has been reached for this year and no more can be accepted. You are encouraged to put your name down to continue your studies but it is possible that you may only be able to re-commence your studies in February next year.

3. New courses

Please keep in mind that if a new course is started up in the future, that you should be aware that the course will not be accredited for at least a year. Any new companies must apply and request a process through ALIA which takes 1-2 years before accreditation is granted.



Australian
Library and
Information
Association

4. Course recognition process for courses offered in Australia

In 2009 ALIA conducted a review of all 17 institutions that offer the Diploma of Library/Information Science and a report of that process which is entitled *State of the Nation* is available on the website at <http://www.alia.org.au/education/> We do recommend that you read this to understand the status of education in this area.

When reviewing Institutions offering courses for Library Technicians to consider transferring, please take note of the course recognition period as some have only been awarded accreditation for a short period i.e. 2 years.

If you complete your diploma within that period, you will then be eligible for Library Technician membership of ALIA. However, if your qualification is granted outside of that accreditation period and the institution fails to be granted a further period of accreditation, then eligibility for ALIA membership will need to be determined through the widened eligibility process.

The following questions were asked by participating students of Capra Ryan.

Q. Fees paid to Capra Ryan – how do we get those that have been paid in advance?

ALIA is investigating through a range of Government organisations the answer to that question and we are seeking on your behalf but do not have that info at this stage. If you would like to be kept up-to- date with information, please forward your details to education@alia.org.au

Q. In email sent, it was mentioned that Capra Ryan had lost their accreditation in October last year. What will happen in regard to those subjects that have been completed so far?

If you have a certificate of attainment from Capra Ryan for subjects completed at this stage, these should be recognised by the institution to which you transfer to for the Certificate III, IV or Diploma level.

The certificate should contain the subject details and grading for any unit you have successfully completed through submission of required assignments or RPL. It should also list the CRICOS certification for Capra Ryan as a Commonwealth listed institution and the official logo.

Q. Can we be assured that we will be receiving the certification from Capra Ryan?

Please keep in mind that ALIA has no relationship with Capra Ryan and is not responsible for completion of documentation relating to your subjects. You should contact Capra Ryan management regarding this and we are also trying to determine a contact number in the Qld Dept of Education and Training to assist you if you do not receive the required course documentation.





Q. If we have a certificate of attainment from Capra Ryan and take it to another RTO but find that they do not offer the same subjects, will they still be recognised?

Subjects should be consistent between RTOs for core units as they are based on an industry standard determined by the Australian Quality Training Framework that all training institutions comply with. There may be some variation with electives that are offered by RTOs that would need to be discussed with the course coordinator.

Q. Is there a time limit for the certificate of attainment to be provided?

Capra Ryan is in the process of completing all assessments and as part of their final processes, are required to provide all documents that show the grading awarded to each student. ALIA is endeavoring to provide a contact within the Qld Dept of Education and Training and it is possible that they will be able to assist you with this.

Q. As far as course recognition goes, does this affect any people who have completed the CR course previously?

For those that apply for ALIA membership, they would have had to complete their course within the current accreditation period. If they have not, then they would need to apply through the widened eligibility process which is explained on the website at <http://www.alia.org.au/membership.benefits/personal.html>. The Education Manager can provide you with information if you do graduate from a non-accredited ALIA course to become an associate or Library technician member. ALIA recognises only attainment of the diploma for library technician membership.

Q. For students who are overseas are they able to enroll in a TAFE course or do they need to find another RTO?

The student is able to enroll as an international student in any TAFE campus but this may mean attending some classes depending on the mode of delivery that the institution offers. Please contact the Education Manager who will assist with options.

ALIA is your professional association and we look forward to you continuing your membership and this has been an example of the type of services that we provide to our members. We hope that we can continue to support you in your studies and professional development and that this has given you an insight into the educational services that ALIA provides. We look forward to helping you in the future to find another RTO to continue your studies with.

Q. Is the Certificate IV offered by TAFEs accredited by ALIA?

No, graduates must gain the Diploma in order to be eligible for Library Technician membership.