

CCLC Update 36 – policy is updated to replace the term “credit by examination” with “credit for prior learning” pursuant to terminology in Title 5 Section 55050. The procedure also identifies new local procedures that must be added to meet credit for prior learning requirements.

AP 4235

Credit for Prior Learning ~~Credit by Examination~~

Reference: **Title 5 Sections 55050 and 55052, ~~BP 4235~~, Education Code section 79500**

~~Updated:~~Last
Reviewed:

May 21, 2019

Revised:

~~There are two policies that allow students to obtain credits by successfully passing examinations: (1) Credit by Examination, and (2) External Examinations. Credit for Prior Learning may be obtained by one of the following methods: These policies are described in the colleges' catalogs.~~ **(CCLC: Colleges must determine appropriate methods and update this section)**

The following are common:

- Achievement of a score of [**3 or higher**] on an Advanced Placement Examination administered by the College Entrance Examination Board.
- Achievement of a score that qualifies for credit by examination in the College Level Examination Program.
- Credit by satisfactory completion of an examination administered by the college in lieu of completion of a course listed in the college catalog.
- Achievement of an examination administered by other agencies approved by the college.
- Assessment approved or conducted by proper authorities of the college.

(1) Credit by Examination

Credit by Examination may be obtained by any student who satisfactorily passes an examination approved and conducted by the appropriate department. Credit by Examination requires that:

- The student is currently registered in the college and in goodstanding;
- The course is listed in the college catalog;
- The unit value may not be greater than that listed for the course in the catalog;
- Students have not enrolled in, or completed, the same course or an advanced course at any college in the area in which Credit by Examination is requested.

Credits acquired via Credit by Examination are not applicable to unit load requirements such as Financial Aid, Selective Service deferment, and Veteran's or Social Security benefits.

Credits acquired via Credit by Examination shall not be counted in determining the 12 semester hours of credit in residence required for an Associate degree.

The student's academic record shall clearly indicate that the credit was earned by examination.

Credits acquired via Credit by Examination administered by the College District shall be charged the per unit enrollment fee established by Education Code section 76300.

The Credit by Examination procedure shall be clearly delineated in the college catalog and/or course schedule.

(2) External Examinations

Credits may be awarded to students that successfully pass external examinations including Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and College Level Examination Program (CLEP). Such exams may also be used for California State University (CSU) GE Breadth and Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) certifications (Exception: CLEP is not currently accepted for IGETC or by the UC System). The student's academic transcript will be annotated to designate credit awarded by external examinations.

The following requirements apply:

Advanced Placement

Credit is awarded for AP examinations passed with a score of 3 or above.

Credit may be applied to specific general education areas and in some cases fulfill major requirements.

General education credit awarded must meet the minimum standards outlined in the California Community College General Education AP List.

Elective units are granted for examinations that do not fit into general education areas and/or fulfill major requirements.

The District shall post its Advanced Placement Credit procedure on its public website.

The California Community Colleges (CCC) AP policy stipulates a minimum number of AP credits awarded per examination (AB 1985).

Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges will mirror the CSU GE Breadth AP credit list, which meets or exceeds the CCC AP Policy.

International Baccalaureate

Achievement of a score that qualifies for credit on an International Baccalaureate (IB) Examination.

College Level Examination Program Examination

Achievement of a score that qualifies for credit on a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Examination.

The required score, total number of units awarded, and placement of credit in general education, shall be listed in the colleges' catalogs. Major courses fulfilled, if any, must also be listed in the colleges' catalogs.

Credit may be awarded for prior experience or prior learning only for individually identified courses with subject matter similar to that of the individual's prior learning, and only for a course listed in the catalog of the community college. Award of credit may be

made to electives for students who do not require additional general education or program credits to meet their goals.

Determination of Eligibility to Receive Credit by Examination:

- The student must be currently registered in the college and in good standing.
- The course is listed in the college catalog.
- Credits acquired by examination are not applicable to meeting of such unit load requirements as Selective Service deferment, Veteran's or Social Security benefits.

Credits acquired by assessment shall not be counted in determining the 12 semester hours of credit in residence required for an Associate degree.

NOTE: Additional local procedures may be inserted, which **must** include:

- Procedures for students to attain credit for prior learning that includes credit by examination, evaluation of Joint Services Transcripts, evaluation of student-created portfolios, evaluation of industry-recognized documentation, and standardized exams.
- The student's academic record clearly indicates that the credit was earned by assessment of prior learning.
- Limits on the number of units that may be applied to the Associate degree.
- Other limits on student and course eligibility for credit by examination.
- Procedures that require that a student, upon completion of his/her educational plan pursuant to Education Code Section 78212, shall be referred to the college's appropriate authority for assessment of prior learning if the student is a veteran or an active-duty member of the armed forces, holds industry-recognized credentials, or requests credit for a course based on their prior learning.
- An opportunity for students to accept, decline or appeal decisions related to the award of credit, and in the cases of credit by exam, pursuant to Title 5 Sections 55021 and 55025.