

Credit for prior learning (CPL) is defined as credit awarded to students who have completed college-level courses or have demonstrated proficiency in a course eligible for CPL and receive college credit through the approved alternative methods for awarding credit listed below:

Credit may be awarded for prior experience or prior learning only for individually identified courses with subject matter similar to the student's prior learning and only for courses listed in the MiraCosta College Catalog.

Award of credit will be made to general education or program requirements when possible and to electives for students who do not require additional general education or program credits to meet their goals. Units for which credit is given shall not be counted in determining the 12 units in residence required for an associate degree.

Approved Methods for Awarding Credit for Prior Learning

Students may demonstrate proficiency in a course eligible for CPL and receive college credit through the approved alternative methods for awarding credit listed below:

- Achievement of a satisfactory score on any of the following standardized examinations: Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and College Level Examination Program (CLEP).
- Evaluation of Joint Services Transcripts (JST).
- Satisfactory completion of an institutional examination, known as credit by exam, administered by discipline faculty.

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References: Title 5, §55050
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- Evaluation of industry-recognized credential documentation.
- Evaluation of a student portfolio or other assessment approved or conducted by designees of the college.

AP, IB, CLEP, JST, and credit by exam can be used by MiraCosta College to certify specific CSU and/or UC general education requirements.

A. Credit for Standardized Examinations

1. Advanced Placement (AP) Examination Program: MiraCosta College grants credit to high school students who attain scores of 3, 4, or 5 on AP exams administered by the College Entrance Examination Board. The Advanced Placement Guide published in the MiraCosta College Catalog identifies how specific AP exams can be used as CPL. (See Administrative Procedure 4236: Advanced Placement Credit.)
2. International Baccalaureate (IB) Examination Program: MiraCosta College grants credit toward the associate degree for most high level IB exams passed with a minimum score of 5. However, individual departments may also determine course equivalency. The International Baccalaureate Guide published in the MiraCosta College Catalog identifies how specific exams can be used as CPL. To receive credit, official IB transcripts must be on file in the Admissions and Records Office.
3. College Level Examination Program (CLEP): MiraCosta College grants credit for successful completion of certain CLEP general examinations and subject examinations with a minimum score of 50. The CLEP Guide published in the MiraCosta College Catalog identifies how specific exams can be used as CPL. To receive credit, official CLEP transcripts must be on file in the Admissions and Records Office.

B. Credit for U.S. Military Service/Training

MiraCosta College grants experience credit of three elective units for submission of any DD214, 295, or other military transcript. Additionally, active duty military personnel and U.S. military veterans may satisfy the Self-Development general education (GE) requirement from MiraCosta College's GE pattern (Plan A) or the California State University GE-Breadth pattern (Plan B) through submission of a military transcript.

Military service school training will be evaluated and awarded associate degree credit in accordance with the recommendations contained in the American Council on Education (ACE) Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Forces. In most circumstances, the units awarded will be elective credit. Students may also receive credit for USAFI/Dantes subject standardized tests and USAFI courses by submitting an official transcript to the Admissions and Records Office. Students should submit a verified copy of their DD214/military transcript to the Admissions and Records Office for evaluation.

C. Credit by Exam

Credit by exam is a process whereby discipline faculty administer a locally developed exam to determine whether a student can demonstrate sufficient mastery of the learning

