

Credit for Prior Learning –SAC Chair Survey

Fall 2007

37 Responses

1. Which SAC are you representing in this Credit for Prior Learning survey?	
#	Response
1	music
2	Humanities
3	World Languages
4	Psychology
5	Management/Supervision
6	Professional Music
7	Foods and Nutrition
8	Political Science
9	Machine Manufacturing Technology
10	Gerontology
11	Sign Language Interpretation Program
12	Health Information Management
13	Graphic Design
14	Fire Protection
15	Mathematics
16	CAS/OS
17	Architectural Design & Drafting
18	SLIP/DS/SLS
19	ETC & EM
20	Counseling and Guidance
21	Alcohol and Drug Counseling
22	Biology
23	DE
24	DE
25	Real Estate
26	Criminal Justice
27	ESOL
28	Occupational Skills and Culinary Assistant
29	Building Inspection Technology
30	Drafting Technology
31	nursing
32	Nursing
33	nursing
34	Nursing

35	Nursing
36	Art
37	Nursing

2. Do you offer any Credit for Prior Learning? (Check all that apply)

Non traditional credit		7	18%
Challenge exams		15	39%
Advanced placement		7	18%
CLEP		1	3%
Military training		3	8%
Dante		0	0%
No credit for prior learning offered		15	39%
Other, please specify View Responses		7	18%

3. For each item you checked in question 2 - Do you feel it was an effective approach to Credit for Prior Learning?

#	Response
1	yes
2	I find each of these methods are fair and effective.
3	Yes -- because it assures academic integrity.
4	yes
5	NTC - effective when appropriate Waivers - would be more effective if could be transcribed
6	Not too sure what you meant by this.
7	Yes
8	\$10 per credit hour would be more reasonable for NTC awarded.
9	Need to clarify for appropriate level. MTH30 Challenge Exam offered only. Forced to accept AP Exam for MTH243/244 and MTH251/252/253 by State legislature.
10	Yes -- students complete the same tests as enrolled students.
11	Yes, worked fine
12	We don't offer any.
13	Yes
14	While we offer it, it has never been used as an option.
15	Yes, if a pre-requisite override counts as "credit." Some students don't seek our advice and may therefor take an introductory class that is not needed for advancement to another course.
16	Yes

17	Non traditional credit is an effective and excellent approach for awarding college credit - at least in the area of criminal justice. Our SAC gives a very limited amount of credit for certain prior training by state agencies and their as well as some of their in-service at this time.
18	Yes. We don't care where or how the student learned English. If she/he knows it, he/she will place into a higher level. But, because we are non-credit, they don't get credit(s) for prior learning. They just avoid repeating what they know. At the higher ESOL levels, students do earn credit, but because only a limited number of ESOL credits transfer, it doesn't help students to get credits for prior learning. It just helps them to complete ESOL sooner, so that they can start their major program sooner.
19	It is effective for the one introductory class that has the option. No other courses have the option.
20	Most definitely! The challenge exam provides the perfect vehicle for advanced placement within the program, and allows the student to demonstrate competency in the basic subject matter without having to toil through concepts they already know.
21	yes
22	For LPN to RN students, yes.
23	yes
24	yes
25	I don't know of a good measuring tool for generic students. LPNs have become more successful since testing them it is assumed because they enter the program where their knowledge drops off.

4. If you checked none in question 2 – Why doesn't your SAC accept credit for prior learning?

#	Response
1	We have not been approached for such credit and we are not sure that prior learning would fit within the course outcomes for the humanities.
2	Because our classes focus on oral proficiency, we do not offer credit by exam, since those tests focus on discrete grammar points and written language skills.
3	It has not become an issue in our SAC. Psychology is a dynamic discipline. Even previously taken courses become dated easily.
4	One year certificate. Specialized courses.
5	We serve other disciplines; particularly Nursing and Dental. They primarily make the decision which students entitled to prior credit. Sometimes nursing or dental faculty ask me to evaluate a particular syllabi related to nutrition course from other institutions. My recommendations generally accepted. Nutrition SACC has not, and will not, entertain credit for prior learning. Unless there is an actual transcript saying student took X course that is more than loosely related to the subject matter, science based and so forth, we're not interested. Too many variables involved.
6	N/A
7	We never consider it and we do not have enough full time faculty to oversee this approach. Only thing, we do accept some credits that is being transfer from other colleges if it is same courses as our courses for certain courses
8	We're control freaks. We believe no one teaches our content better than we do. We need to have all students following the same procedures in the same manner, not 20 different ways. Also it would take a huge amount of work assessing the prior learning.
9	Most of prior learning does not apply to our field. It is quite difficult to document the prior learning due to rapid changes in our field and what the students have learned prior from other resources might not be same what we are teaching because of changes in the field. we have not any students asking for credit for prior learning.
10	The courses that we offer are human development experiential courses that go as general elective transfer and may not be needed or beneficial to approach from a prior learning perspective.
11	We believed that PCC does not allow credit for prior learning. Many years ago the dean of our program expressed this belief.
12	Our courses teach students the basics of reading, writing, and math. Sometimes if students seem to be misplaced by the assessment tests, teachers recommend students to retake the COMPASS to score high enough for the next level class.
13	N/A
14	They can't work in the field unless they go through an accredited program
15	See above. The 4-year universities only accept limited ESOL credits for transfer.
16	Because of the hands on approach of the course and its intention for learning new/alternative skills.
17	Specialized knowledge
18	This issue hasn't come up in our SAC since I started here at PCC four years ago.
19	We accept gen ed. Nursing is a specific field that does not have a consisten experience for which to approve credit.
20	In nursing it would not be appropriate. The nursing program is mandated to standards set by the OSBN.

5. If your SAC uses Credit for Prior Learning - How many students have attempted to earn credit in the past year?

#	Response
1	1-2
2	approximately 20 per year
3	n/a
4	None.
5	less than 10
6	NTC - 10-12 Waivers - 15-20
7	15
8	100's
9	Unknown for AP exam; 2 for MTH30 for last year.
10	12 attempted, 11 passed, 1 did not pass
11	about 4
12	none
13	2
14	Many (a few dozen?) We do not track this number.
15	applicants appeal to the state, not to PCC
16	about a dozen but the number is increasing.
17	N/A
18	5
19	I would estimate about 10-12 students.
20	4
21	4
22	not sure
23	I don't know. Perhaps 20 %? of the class

6. Do you feel the methods your SAC is using are effective?

#	Response
1	yes
2	yes
3	Yes.
4	n/a
5	Absolutely.
6	Yes, even though testing has not been requested in modern memory.
7	yes
8	Current methods leave out granting credit for a lot of CEU courses that could meet some elective credit criteria
9	yes
10	Yes

11	Yes, for the control issues we have.
12	Yes
13	Unknown effectiveness We have no information to adequately answer. (AP credit is not determined by the Math SAC.)
14	Yes, though they are time consuming for the instructor who proctors the test as we do not get any compensation.
15	yes, both methods are good indicators of student skills gained from work experience
16	yes
17	Yes
18	Generally yes but we are always looking to improve/innovate.
19	Instructors review student transcripts/military experience/training/etc./ but we often never have the opportunity to give the student credit. but it
20	(see #5)
21	Criminal Justice may be somewhat unique regarding credit for prior learning. I've experienced the training for which PCC is awarding credits which makes it easier to evaluate coursework.
22	yes.
23	Yes. Print reading is the one class available for challenge exam and can be effectively tested as a basic skill by an exam.
24	Yes, I do. We're very responsive to the student's need for credit for prior learning, and wish to expand this opportunity in the future. Our challenge exercises and exams are the perfect barometer of the student's mastery of the course content.
25	yes
26	Yes
27	yes
28	Yes
29	Yes

7. If PCC moves forward with Credit for Prior Learning – What role do you envision for your discipline in the effort to establish or improve CPL?

#	Response
1	create more comprehensive diagnostic exams
2	We would need to study the situation and assess its applicability.
3	We could start offering credit by exam, but we are very against it, since it goes against our SAC teaching philosophies
4	I'm meeting with the SAC tomorrow. Let me ask them.
5	We would be happy to share any experiences, knowledge, ideas we can with a CPL committee.
6	minimal.
7	None.
8	This will need to be discussed at the SAC level. I, personally, envision a very small role, if any. Our SAC is normally very conservative about adopting changes we feel may compromise academic integrity.
9	embrace it
10	Would like to be very involved to develop approaches that fit the needs particularly of our older students
11	We think it will add lot more to our workload.
12	The problem would be in finding qualified PLE assessors for my discipline, therefore I would expect that I or another HIM instructor would be required to assess. It is much less time consuming to complete this process currently.
13	You will have very little support from us.
14	None

15	Not sure.
16	Unknown at this time. The biggest factor would be the amount of time necessary to devote to this project.
17	not sure
18	We don't know.
19	Identifying online course work offered through the Dept of Homeland Security and FEMA which would become part of existing courses or offer credit for online classes
20	I cannot think of any at the moment.
21	We could use certification in Alcohol and Drug Counseling (ACCBO) as a means of using outside verification for many courses. We could generate a large number of FTE and help addiction counselors move closer to obtaining a 4 year degree.
22	(see #5)
23	Our SAC should continue to attend and evaluate state CJ training to assess whether their training meets PCC standards in quality.
24	nothing
25	Unknown at this time. We will certainly look at the possibilities.
26	Building Inspection does not support credit for prior learning as a whole for our program. We support it as a limited option.
27	Our department will continue to support and implement CPL for our certificate students, and will abide by the guidelines set forth by the college. We really do not see any radical change to the existing methods currently in place for our department.
28	to provide realistic guidelines for accepting credit in professional/technical programs
29	NA
30	set guidelines for what prior learning is accepted
31	Very little. there are very strict requirements in the Nursing Discipline.
32	I'm not sure how it would apply to Art.
33	I am hoping none
34	I envision nursing not taking part.

8. Are there additional methods you are aware of to assess Credit for Prior Learning?	
#	Response
1	not in music
2	no.
3	I am not aware of any.
4	no.
5	Yes -- but none that I am convinced would be acceptable to our SAC at this time.
6	outcomes met through non-accredited institutions
7	I'm partial to the portfolio approach utilized by Marylhurst University and others.
8	No
9	I refer to my professional association on how others in HIM programs throughout the country are handling PLE. Mostly, they seem to require students to complete challenge exams for PLE.
10	no
11	Portfolio
12	Not Sure. There was some confusion and uncertainty about whether pre-college level math courses would fall in the category of "college credit."
13	No
14	no

15	no
16	No
17	Unaware.
18	yes--a mentorship program could be established, but the state would have to approve
19	None beyond what our SAC is doing.
20	No
21	Not at this time.
22	NA
23	No.
24	no
25	I am not interested in learning about more.