

APP 8043

ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO COLLEGE CREDIT

It is the policy of Southwestern Oregon Community College to award college credit through alternative approaches including credit for prior learning (CPL) and other credit.

Alternative approaches to college credit include:

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- Challenge Examination
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
- Credit for Industry Certification (CIC)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Military Credit
- DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST)
- Prior Learning Assessment via Portfolio (PLA)

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING PROCESS

Courses considered for prior learning credit include challenge exams, credit for industry certification, and prior learning portfolios. Students pay a per credit fee for credits earned through any of these methods.

Students can obtain no more than 25% of the overall credits for a degree through credit for Prior Learning Assessment via Portfolio (PLA).

In order to initiate the CPL process, students must meet with the instructor and negotiate an agreement. The student then pays the appropriate fee at Student First Stop. The form and agreement are then forwarded to the dean of that specific area for approval. Courses will then be added to the student's transcript. Southwestern personnel will make no assurances as to the number of credits to be awarded prior to the completion of the institution's review process.

ALTERNATIVE CREDIT PROCESSES

Southwestern will evaluate any of the following learning experiences for credit depending on test and score: Advanced Placement (AP), College-level Entrance Examination Program (CLEP), and International Baccalaureate (IB). Military Service Credit, (AARTS, CCAF, CGI, and SMART) is considered for transfer evaluation based on American Council on Education (ACE) recommendation. Southwestern does not accept non-military ACE recommendations. A military Veteran will be granted three credits of PE applicable to all PE/Health degree requirements upon the submission of a DD214 with basic training completion.

MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

To meet requirements for a degree or certificate, a student must complete a minimum of 24 credits at Southwestern in addition to any credits transferred in from another institution or earned through alternative credit methods. Alternative credits must not duplicate other credit awarded. Financial Aid and waivers do not cover the per credit fee for alternative credits.

Adopted: May 2, 2018