Chapter 3. Educational Policies

3.35 & 3.35.1 Credit for Prior Learning Policy & Procedure

I. POLICY

It is the policy of Rainy River Community College to provide students with the opportunity to earn credit through various methods of credit for prior learning. The College will inform and advise prospective and admitted students about the various ways in which credit can be obtained. Students will not be limited on the total number of credits earned through credit for prior learning. Credits earned through the College Level Exam Program (CLEP) and Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) examinations are not resident credits and may not be used to satisfy resident credit requirements for graduation. Official documentation of exam scores and/or course equivalencies must be provided to the college to obtain credit.

II. PROCEDURE

Subpart A. College Level Placement Exam (CLEP).

1. A student who earns a score of 50 or higher on a non-language CLEP examination will receive college credit. In order to receive college credit for Level 2 foreign-language examinations, a student must earn a minimum score of 60 for German language, 59 for French language, and 63 for Spanish language. These scores are consistent with recommendations made by the American Council of Education (ACE).

2. Equivalent course credits shall be granted when a CLEP examination covers material that is substantially similar to an existing college course.

3. Liberal Arts and/or general elective course credits shall be granted when a CLEP examination covers material that is deemed to be college-level but is not substantially similar to an existing course.

Subpart B. Advanced Placement (AP) Exams.

1. College credit will be granted to students who earn a three or higher in an AP examination.

2. College credit shall be granted for a specific college course for each AP examination that covers substantially similar material.

3. General elective credits shall be granted when an AP examination covers material that is deemed to be college-level but is not substantially similar to an existing course.

4. AP credit that overlaps completed coursework for which college credit has already been earned will count as liberal art elective credit.
Subpart C. International Baccalaureate (IB) Credit.
1. Students who attain an IB diploma with a score of 24 or higher shall be granted credit as follows:
   a. 8 semester credits each for four higher level examinations plus 2 semester credits each for two standard level examinations, for a total of 36 semester credits; or
   b. 8 semester credits each for three higher level examinations plus 2 semester credits each for three standard level examinations, for a total of 30 semester credits.
2. A student may receive credits for individual higher level IB examination scores of 4 or higher.
3. Course credits shall be granted when an IB examination covers material that is substantially similar to an existing college course.
4. General elective credits shall be granted when an IB examination covers material that is deemed to be college-level but is not substantially similar to an existing course.
5. IB credit that overlaps completed coursework for which college credit has already been earned will count as liberal art elective credit.

Subpart D. Military Education and Experience.
1. General education credits satisfying the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) will be accepted beyond the 16 semester credit maximum.
2. Students may petition for an evaluation of military credits believed to be equivalent to a specific program if equivalencies not already determined.

Subpart E. Prior Learning Assessments
1. PLA credits earned are counted toward the residency and college graduation requirements.
2. Prior learning assessments are evaluated through various methods such as demonstration, written documentation, performance, and/or evaluator/student discussions. PLAs are based on individual course outcomes.
3. Students must register for the course for which they wish to test out.
4. Courses completed through PLAs are recorded on the student transcript the semester in which the student registers for them. An official grade of Pass or No Credit will be reflected on the transcript and the student will receive other documentation that denotes grade equivalencies.
5. The instructor of the PLA will provide documentation of the procedure used for the test out (e.g. oral exams, written exams, portfolio, etc.) and indicate student performance on the test (% score and/or letter grade).
Last Name: ___________________________   First Name: _____________________  Middle Name/Initial: ____

**Student Authorization:** My signature confirms I have received PLA advisement from the Instructor and that I authorize the assessment of my prior learning for credit in the following Rainy River Community College course(s). I agree with the assessment methods to be used for the evaluation and also agree to pay any/all applicable PLA course tuition and fees. I understand I will earn a grade of P (pass) or NC (no-credit) for the course(s).

* The grade equivalency noted will not be transcripted at RRCC, but may be needed for other purposes.

Student Signature: ___________________________   Date: ____/____/______

**For instructor use only:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>CR.</th>
<th>Instructor Signature</th>
<th>Grade P or NC</th>
<th>*Grade Equivalent</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Assessment Method/s Used:

**Instructor Confirmation:** I confirm that the PLA applicant is currently admitted to Rainy River Community College and has received advisement regarding the assessment methods for the listed courses.

Instructor: ___________________________   Signature: ___________________________   Date: ____/____/______

**For Registrar’s Office Use Only:**

DATE GRADE PROCESSED: ____/____/______   GRADE PROCESSED BY: ___________________________