

TENNESSEE PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA) TASK FORCE

The following information is excerpted from a report of Recommended PLA Standards produced by the Tennessee PLA Task Force and provided to illustrate some of the ways credit by examination issue are addressed and articulated. The entire report may be accessed on the Resources page of the PLA with a Purpose website (<https://ohiohighered.org/PLA-resources>). Additional information about the TN PLA project can be found at: www.beginagainTN.org.

Transcription of PLA Credits

A. Transcription Standards: PLA credits shall appear on student transcripts in the following ways:

- College Level Exam Program (CLEP) – Students may earn college credit for certain examinations administered by the College Level Exam Program. To receive credit for a CLEP test, a minimum score (based on institutional or system policy) must be earned (see Catalog for details). CLEP credit will be transcribed as course specific credit with a grade of “P.” Because no grade is assigned other than “P,” no Quality Points will be awarded to count toward GPA. CLEP credit will be identified as transfer credit from the College Level Exam Program.
- College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) – Students may earn college credit by earning a minimum grade (based on institutional or system policy) or above on appropriate College Entrance Examination Board exams. A letter grade of “P” will be assigned for credit granted. Because no grade is assigned other than “P,” no Quality Points will be awarded to count toward GPA.
- Advanced Placement – Course credit for successful completion of Advanced Placement examinations administered by the College Entrance Examination Board to high school students will be granted to students presenting Advanced Placement examination grades of three or higher. A letter grade of “P” will be assigned for credit granted. Because no grade is assigned other than “P,” no Quality Points will be awarded to count toward GPA.
- DANTES Subject Standardized Test (DSST) – Students may earn college credit for acceptable scores on the DANTES Subject Standardized Test based on institutional or system policy. If no such policy exists and an institution accepts DSST credit, then college credit shall be awarded based upon the credit recommendations and minimum scores recommended by the American Council on Education by default. Students should submit an official DANTES transcript for review. A letter grade of “P” will be assigned for credit granted. Because no grade is assigned other than “P,” no Quality Points will be awarded to count toward GPA.
- Institutional Course Challenge Examinations – An institutional course challenge examination may be available to students who have knowledge of a subject area not covered by standardized exams (e.g., CLEP). Students should consult with their academic advisor as this method of earning prior learning credit is institution-based.

Transferability of PLA Credits

C. When credit has been awarded for standardized examinations or by credit recommendation services, institutions are strongly encouraged to accept PLA credits in transfer based on the student's transfer transcript from other TBR or UT colleges and universities.

Internal Procedures for Maintaining Transparency and Consistency

- A. Periodic review of PLA policies
- B. Program transparency
- C. Transparency of the award/denial of PLA credit:
 - a. When a student has applied for PLA credit, the following procedures must be followed:
 - i. ACE, CLEP, and other forms of non-portfolio PLA credit: If credit is denied for a course equivalency, an explanation or justification must be made available to the student.
- D. Appeals
 - a. Institutions are encouraged to develop and communicate a process for appealing PLA decisions (e.g., credit awarded, review process). In cases where the appeals processes mirror applicable institution procedures for appeals in traditional courses, language should be explicitly included to note that PLA credit can be appealed following the same process.
 - i. In many cases, however, the point where a student begins his or her appeal may not be practical when considering how PLA credit is awarded. For example, many institutions require that a student discuss the matter with his or her instructor at first. This may be impractical if the student is unaware as to who has evaluated his or her portfolio or if a student wants to appeal the course equivalency of a CLEP exam. In such cases, institutions should indicate the first steps that are unique to PLA students.
 - b. Recommendations and scoring by ACE, CLEP, and other external bodies are under the auspices of the evaluation body and cannot be appealed at the college/university level. Students should be directed to the appeals procedures for each testing agency or credit recommendation service.

TN CLEP: BEFORE

CLEP Exam Title	RECOMMENDED	APSU	ETSU	MTSU	TSU	TTU	UOM	UTC	UTK	UTM	CHSCC	CLSCC	COSCC	DSCC	JSCC	MSCC	NASCC	NESCC	PSTCC	RSCC	STCC	VSCC	WSCC	
American Government	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	X X	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
American Literature	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 6	X 6	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 3	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	X X	50 6
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 6	X 3	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 6
Biology	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 8	50 4	50 6	50 8	X X	X X	50 0	X X	50 8	X X	X X	50 3	X X	50 8	50 8	50 8	50 8	50 6	50 4	X X	50 6
Calculus	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 4	50 8	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	50 3	X X	X X	50 3	50 4	50 4	50 4	50 4	50 4	50 3	50 3	X X	50 4
Chemistry	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 3	50 4	50 8	50 8	X X	X X	50 0	X X	50 4	X X	X X	50 3	50 X	50 8	50 8	50 8	50 8	50 6	50 8	X X	50 6
College Algebra	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 4	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	50 3	X X	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
College Composition (also Freshmen)	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 3	X X	50 6	50 X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 6
College Composition Modular	Score Credit Hours	50 3/6	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 3	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 6	50 X	50 X	50 X	50 X	50 X	50 X	X X	50 X
College Mathematics	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	X 3	45 X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 3	X X	X X	50 3	420 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 6	X X
English Literature	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 6	X X	50 3	X X	X X	X X	50 0	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 3	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	X X	50 6
Financial Accounting	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 6	50 3	50 X	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	50 6	50 6	X X	50 3	50 6	50 3	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	63 3	70 X
French Language, Level I	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 6	50 6	50 X	50 X	X X	50 0	X X	50 0	X X	50 6	50 6	X 3	50 6	50 3	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6	50 6
French Language, Level II	Score Credit Hours	59 12	X X	59 12	X 6	59 12	X X	X X	59 0	59 0	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	62 6	59 6	50 12	62 12	62 12	62 12	62 6	X X	59 6
German Language, Level I	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 6	X X	50 6	X X	X X	40 0	50 0	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X 3	50 X	50 X	50 X	50 X	50 X	X X	50 6
German Language, Level II	Score Credit Hours	60 12	X X	63 12	X X	60 12	X X	X X	48 0	60 0	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	63 6	X X	63 12	63 12	63 12	X X	X X	59 6
History of the United States I	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
History of the United States II	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	51 3	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
Human Growth and Development	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 X	X X	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
Humanities	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 6	X X	X X	X X	421 3	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 3	X X	50 3	X X	420 3-6	50 6	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 6
Information Systems and Computer Applications	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	X X	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	X X	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 3
Introduction to Educational Psychology	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	X X	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	X X	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	X X	50 3
Introductory Business Law	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	X X	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
Introductory Psychology	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	47 0	50 0	X X	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
Introductory Sociology	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	52 0	50 0	X X	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	50 3	X X	50 3
Natural Sciences	Score Credit Hours	50 6	X X	50 3	X X	50 X	X X	421 3	X X	50 8	50 8	50 X	50 X	50 X	50 X	X X	50 6							
Precalculus	Score Credit Hours	50 3	X X	50 3	50 4	50 X	50 3	X X	X X	50 0	X X	X X	50 3	X X	X X	X X	50 6	50 3	50 5	50 X	50 X	50 6	X X	50 3

TN CLEP: AFTER

CLEP Exam Title	RECOMMENDED	APSU	ETSU	MTSU	TSU	TTU	UOM	UTC	UTK	UTM	CHSCC	CLSCC	COSCC	DSCC	JSCC	MSCC	NASCC	NESCC	PSTCC	RSCC	STCC	VSCC	WSCC
American Government	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
American Literature	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X
	Credit Hours	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	X	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	X
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	Score	50	50	50	X	X	50	X	X	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	X
	Credit Hours	6	6	6	X	X	6	X	X	6	X	X	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	6	X
Biology	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	X	50
	Credit Hours	6	8	8	8	8	8	X	X	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	X	8	X	8
Calculus	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	4	4	4	4	4	X	X	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Chemistry	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	52	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	X	50
	Credit Hours	6	8	8	8	8	8	X	8	6	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	X	8	X	8
College Algebra	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	X	50	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	3	3	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	3
College Composition (also Freshman)	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	X	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	6	6	6
College Composition Modular	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	X	50
	Credit Hours	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	X	3/6	X	6	X	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	3/6	X	3/6	X	3/6	X	3/6
College Mathematics	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	6	3	3	3	3	X	3	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
English Literature	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X
	Credit Hours	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	X	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	X
Financial Accounting	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
French Language, Level I	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	50	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	6	8	6	X	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
French Language, Level II	Score	59	59	59	59	59	59	X	59	62	59	X	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
	Credit Hours	12	12	12	12	12	12	X	6	12	12	X	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
German Language, Level I	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	40	50	50	X	50	50	50	X	50	50	50	50	50	X	50
	Credit Hours	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	6	8	6	X	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	6
German Language, Level II	Score	60	60	60	60	60	60	X	48	60	60	X	60	60	60	X	60	60	60	60	60	X	60
	Credit Hours	12	12	12	12	12	12	X	6	12	12	X	12	12	12	X	12	12	12	12	12	X	12
History of the United States I	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	3	3	3
History of the United States II	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	3	3	3
Human Growth and Development	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Humanities	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	421	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	6	6	6	6	6	6	3	X	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	X	6	6	6
Information Systems and Computer Applications	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Introduction to Educational Psychology	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	X
Introductory Business Law	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	3	3	3
Introductory Psychology	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	47	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Introductory Sociology	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	52	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Natural Sciences	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	421	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	6	8	8	8	8	8	3	X	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	X	8	8	8
Precalculus	Score	50	50	50	50	50	50	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
	Credit Hours	3	3	3	3	3	3	X	X	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3