Prior learning definition

The knowledge and skills gained through:

• Work and life experience.
• Military training and experience.
• Formal and informal education and training from in-state and out-of-state institutions, including foreign institutions.
Assessing prior learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit by testing</th>
<th>• Standardized exams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extra-institutional learning</td>
<td>• ACE guidance for military training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Industry crosswalks and certifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course challenges</td>
<td>• Usually developed by faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Written, oral, demonstration assessments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prior experiential learning</td>
<td>• Portfolio</td>
</tr>
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<td>• 25% credit limit</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Received data from all publics and all ICWs (60 schools)

61,341 credits applied toward certs or degrees

3,217 students earned credit

Awarded credits increased 41%
# ACPL Report Findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Assessment Examples</th>
<th>Total Students</th>
<th>Total Quarter Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credit by Testing</strong></td>
<td>DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>College Level Exam Program (CLEP)</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>2,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prior Experiential Learning</strong></td>
<td>Portfolio Review (college level credits)</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>3,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Challenges</strong></td>
<td>Generally a faculty or department-created course-specific assessment</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>3,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extra-Institutional Learning</strong></td>
<td>American Council of Education (ACE) (military completion courses)</td>
<td>1,166</td>
<td>27,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Occupational Crosswalks</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>10,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Military MOS, other)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual Industry Cert (e.g. NCLEX-RN)</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>12,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Number of Students and Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,217</td>
<td>61,341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: WSAC staff analysis of Academic Credit for Prior Learning data collected from institutions (Fall 2017).
Recommendations

Streamline data collection

Consistent ACE acceptance policies

Develop more crosswalks

ACPL workgroup continues to meet
True or False?

No more than 25% of a degree’s credits can be used toward ACPL at NWCCU accredited institutions.
NWCCU Standard 2.C.7 only applies the 25% limit toward prior experiential learning (PEL).

“Credit for prior experiential learning, if granted, is . . . limited to a maximum of 25% of the credits needed for a degree. . .”

It also requires that PEL be denoted on transcripts.

“Credit granted for prior experiential learning is so identified on students’ transcripts.”
How many ACPL credits does your school allow?
ACPL laws and policies

SB 6357 (SBCTC)
• Develop policies in collaboration with stakeholders.

RCW 28.B.77.230 (WSAC)
• Convene workgroup and submit annual report
• Increase and report number of:
  • ACPL credits awarded
  • Students receiving ACPL credits.

Sample Policies
• Created by ACPL workgroup.
• Based on national research and effective practices.
• Found in ACPL handbook.
## Transferability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CTCs</th>
<th>State transfer policy</th>
<th>DTA guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Reciprocity policy  
• ACPL guidelines | • Publish ACPL awarding policies  
• Transfer students follow receiving institution's ACPL policies | • Falls under 15 credit “restricted subject” limit |
What do you think about…

Students with ACPL in their DTA?

The 15 credit limit?
True or False?

Public institutions are required by law to maintain a list of military training courses that count as ACPL.
True

RCW 28B.10.057 requires public institutions to:

• Adopt a policy for awarding academic credit for military training.

• Publish a list of military training courses that have qualified for academic credit.
Credits for military training

**ACE guide**

- Develops credit recommendations for military courses and occupations.
- Faculty members develop recommendations.
- Also includes detailed summaries.
- Renewed every three years.

**JST (Joint Services Transcript)**

- Where ACE credit recommendations appear.
- This is what a student will give you.
Transferability

CTCs

- Reciprocity policy
- ACPL guidelines

State transfer policy

- Publish ACPL awarding policies
- Transfer students follow receiving institution's ACPL policies

DTA guidelines

- Falls under 15 credit “restricted subject” limit
What do you think about...

Students with ACPL in their DTA?

The 15 credit limit?