

# ACPL Updates

ICRC Spring 2018

# 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

## Credit by testing

- Standardized exams

## Extra-institutional learning

- ACE guidance for military training
- Industry crosswalks and certifications

## Course challenges

- Usually developed by faculty
- Written, oral, demonstration assessments

## Prior experiential learning

- Portfolio
- 25% credit limit

# 2017 ACPL Report (2016-17)

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

Category	Assessment Examples	Total Students <sup>21</sup>	Total Quarter Credits <sup>22</sup>
<b>Credit by Testing</b>	DANTES Subject Standardized Tests(DSST)	16	130
	College Level Exam Program (CLEP)	259	2,963
<b>Prior Experiential Learning</b>	Portfolio Review (college level credits)	280	3,731
<b>Course Challenges</b>	Generally a faculty or department-created course-specific assessment	600	3,976
<b>Extra-Institutional Learning</b>	American Council of Education (ACE) (military completion courses)	1,166	27,780
	Occupational Crosswalks (Military MOS, other)	417	10,517
	Individual Industry Cert (e.g. NCLEX-RN)	479	12,245
<b>Total Number of Students and Credits</b>		<b>3,217</b>	<b>61,341</b>

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.



# False

**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

## 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?

# 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.

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