

**STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION**

**CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING**

BP 9-42

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ISSUED BY:

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Joe D. May, System President

Policy Statement

The State Board supports the concept of life-long learning to meet the retraining, upgrading, and personal enrichment needs of students. It is the policy of the Board that a student's experience outside the college classroom shall be evaluated for college credit at the student's request.

Scope

This policy applies to the eleven state system community colleges.

Definition

The learning addressed in this policy is defined as learning that has been attained outside the sponsorship of accredited post- secondary education institutions.

Educational Principles

Through this policy, the Board recognizes the following educational principles:

- Learning occurs both within formal educational settings and in the community at large.
- The criteria for evaluation of such learning should take into consideration the educational goals which are identified by the student, as well as institutional and state system requirements.

- Evaluation of prior learning should provide substantive information about the knowledge, competencies, attitudes, values, and other dimensions of personal development which the individual possesses.

Statewide Minimum Evaluation of credit for learning shall be based on the Standards/Procedures criteria delineated below:

- The learning has been identified through one of the following methodologies: Portfolio, Institutional Challenge Exam, Standardized Testing, or Published Guide;
- The learning is college level;
- The learning has been properly evaluated;
- The credit awarded for prior learning must meet systemwide procedural standards.

With regard to the award of credit through any one of the four credit for prior learning methodologies: grades will not be assigned; credit will be awarded; credit will apply towards the degree requirements, but not toward the core general education curriculum; and transcribing will note credit/no grade. No FTE may be generated for credit under this policy.

The evaluation fee to be charged will be determined by each college, but shall not exceed 50% of the standard tuition rate.

Credit for Prior Learning may not be utilized to fulfill institutional residency requirements

#### Procedures

The system president shall promulgate procedures as necessary to implement this policy.