

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Matt Hudelson, Executive Secretary  
Faculty Senate

**FROM:** Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

**FOR:** Academic Affairs Committee

**DATE:** March 31, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Proposal to Revise Rules 15, 16, and 17

At its meeting on March 30, 2021, AAC approved the following changes to Rules 15, 16, and 17 which describe how credit is awarded for particular types of credit, such as AP, military credit, and credit for prior learning.

As proposed by the Transfer Center, the revisions are part of an ongoing effort to clarify language and reorganize text regarding our policies for awarding credit. The revisions have no impact on how credit is awarded.

The revision to Rule 15 updates the title to align with statewide terminology and moves the CLEP and DSST exam references to Rules 16 (Military Credit) and 17 (Academic Credit for Prior Learning).

The revision to Rule 16 removes DSST and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) references and adds them to Rule 17 since non-military personnel also have access to those exams and can receive credit based on established policies.

The revision to Rule 17 adds CLEP, DSST, and DLPT exams since those sources of credit are more universally defined as credit for prior learning statewide and nationally. The external exam sources for credit will continue to be processed as transfer test credit, while the internal sources of challenge and placement exams will be processed as other credit in myWSU.

## 15. CREDIT BY EXAMINATIONS FOR COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM EXAMS

Subject to standards established in consultation with academic departments concerned, credit may be granted to entering or enrolled undergraduate or professional students via various means including external examinations. Approved external examinations include: Advanced Placement (AP) Program examinations of the College Entrance Examinations Board; ~~some~~

~~general and subject College Level Examination Program (CLEP); the International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations; and Cambridge International Examinations.~~

WSU does not accept credit by examination as transcribed by other institutions. Students must request official score reports to be sent directly to WSU. Acceptable scores for receiving credit are published online at [wsu.edu/advancedcredit](http://wsu.edu/advancedcredit).

Credits by examination shall yield no grade points. Such credits may partially fulfill University Common Requirements (UCOREs) for graduation. Duplicate credit for the same subject taken on different exams like Cambridge A-level or A-S level, AP, or IB will not be granted. Advanced credit policies are reviewed on a regular basis and are subject to change.

Students may request to take a course at WSU for which they have been awarded AP, IB, ~~CLEP~~, or Cambridge International credit. Prompted by the request, the AP, IB, ~~CLEP~~, or Cambridge International credit is removed from the overall credits awarded by WSU. Only the subsequent enrollment in the WSU course will contribute to the total credits earned and grade point average; the AP, IB, ~~CLEP~~, or Cambridge International credit cannot be reconsidered for credit for the same course. Students submit the request to ask for the WSU course to be allowed and for the AP, IB, ~~CLEP~~, or Cambridge International credit to be omitted to the Registrar's Office.

(a) Advanced Placement Program. Credit for AP examinations will be granted at the lower-division for scores of 3 and above, as determined in consultation with the specific academic department. The acceptable score for receiving credit is published online at [wsu.edu/advancedcredit](http://wsu.edu/advancedcredit).

~~(b) College Level Examination Program (CLEP). General and Subject Examinations: Credit for CLEP will be granted if the examination is passed with scores established in consultation with the academic department concerned. Credit will be granted for scores of 50 or above. Credit will be granted for the comparable Washington State University course, or elective credit may be granted. Not more than 6 semester credits will be granted for each examination.~~

(e) (b) International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations. Credit is awarded for standard and higher-level examinations with a score of 4 or higher with the exception of non-English Language A exams. See [wsu.edu/advancedcredit](http://wsu.edu/advancedcredit) for course-by-course equivalencies. Please contact the Transfer Clearinghouse for additional details.

~~(d)~~ (c) Cambridge International Examinations. Credit is awarded for A- and AS-level examinations.

~~(e) DSST and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT). See Academic Regulation 16.~~

## 16. MILITARY CREDIT

Credit will be evaluated on the basis of military transcripts received from active duty military and veterans pursuing an education at WSU. Military credit is limited to a maximum of thirty [30] semester credits.

Transcript Credit:

- (a) WSU uses the American Council on Education (ACE) "A Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services" as a framework for evaluating transferable credit documented on the Joint Services Transcript.
- (b) ACE recommendations for the amount and level of credit (upper-division or lower-division) are followed if the military course (non-vocational/technical) is applicable to university or departmental requirements.
- (c) ~~DSST and DEFENSE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY Test Credit: Credit for DSST (formerly DANTES Subject Standardized Tests) and Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) will be granted for college-level academic subjects (non-vocational/technical) using the minimum score and credit amount based on ACE recommendations. DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) and Defense Language Proficiency Tests (DLPT) Exam Credit: See Rule 17 Credit for Prior Learning.~~

## 17. CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Prior learning is defined as the knowledge and skills gained through informal education and training, work, and life experience. Under limited circumstances, WSU assesses academic credit for prior learning through approved academic department challenge examinations and, under limited circumstances, WSU departmental placement examinations. These sources of academic credit for prior learning are awarded only at the undergraduate level for documented student achievement evaluated by faculty and equivalent to expected learning outcomes for courses within WSU's regular curricular offerings. Students should consult with academic units to determine if such an assessment is warranted and available.

WSU also assesses academic credit for prior learning via external examination sources that include College Level Examination Program (CLEP), DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST), and Defense Language Proficiency Tests (DLPT) exams. Approved credit for these exams is subject to transfer credit limitations as published in Rule 6.

Credit that is granted for prior learning is identified on students' transcripts and may not duplicate other credit awarded to the student in fulfillment of degree requirements. WSU does not accept academic credit for prior learning as transcribed by other institutions.

1. Challenge Examinations. Under limited circumstances, M-matriculated students currently registered at Washington State University, with permission of their advisor or department chairperson and of the chairperson of the department offering the course, may take challenge examinations for university credit in courses in which they are not registered. Students may not take challenge examinations in courses which they have audited, or in which they have received a final grade. Upper-division students may not receive credit by challenge examination in lower-division courses in their major field. Undergraduate students may not receive credit by challenge examination in any course prerequisite to a course in which they are enrolled or have received a final grade. The maximum credit for challenge examinations is 25% of the credits need for a degree

unless permission is obtained from the student's academic dean. Consult the Registrar's Office for challenge exam fees.

2. WSU Placement Assessments. Under limited circumstances, and in accordance with policies established by the university, some departments may grant credit or curricular advancement based on certain placement or proficiency exams. Consult the department for information on eligibility, applicable fees, and other relevant policies.

3. College Level Examination Program (CLEP) General and Subject Examinations: Credit for CLEP will be granted if the examination is passed with scores established in consultation with the academic department concerned. Credit will normally be granted for scores of 50 or above. Credit will be granted for the comparable WSU course, or elective credit may be granted. Not more than 6 semester credits will be granted for each examination.

4. DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) and Defense Language Proficiency Tests (DLPT) Exams: Credit for DSST and DLPT exams will be granted for college-level academic subjects (non-vocational/technical) using the minimum score and credit amount based on American Council on Education (ACE) credit recommendations.

~~Academic credit for prior learning is awarded only at the undergraduate level for documented student achievement evaluated by faculty and equivalent to expected learning outcomes for courses within WSU's regular curricular offerings, and it is limited to a maximum of 25% of the credits needed for a degree. Credit that is granted for prior learning is identified on students' transcripts and may not duplicate other credit awarded to the student in fulfillment of degree requirements. WSU does not accept academic credit for prior learning as transcribed by other institutions.~~

At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2021.