Credit for Advanced Course Work during High School

Advanced Placement Program (AP)
Administered by the College Board, the AP program offers examinations to high school students who have completed college-level course work. A schedule of credit awarded by Penn State for AP examinations is available online at http://admissions.psu.edu/academics/credit/ap. Ask the College Board to send official documentation of your AP examination scores to the Undergraduate Admissions Office. More information on the AP program is available online at www.collegeboard.com/ap.

International Baccalaureate Program (IB)
The IB program is available in some high schools to provide advanced work that is equivalent to college-level studies. Higher Level Examinations at the completion of the studies document such participation. A schedule of credit awarded by Penn State for Higher Level Examinations is available online at http://admissions.psu.edu/academics/credit/ib. You may be awarded transfer credit for the subjects examined if you have achieved a score of 5 or higher. Official documentation of your scores must be sent directly from the International Baccalaureate Organization to the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

Credit for Noncollege Educational Experiences/Training in Business, Industry, and Government

Portfolio Assessment
Portfolio assessment is a process through which a student documents that college-level learning experiences have been obtained through noncollege experiences, not necessarily in a classroom setting. Portfolio assessment may result in the award of credit for one or more specific Penn State courses, up to a maximum of 36 credits for a baccalaureate degree or 15 credits for an associate degree. A fee is assessed to recover the costs of the portfolio review, regardless of whether credit is awarded. To explore this option further, contact your academic adviser or the adult enrollment coordinator at your campus. A list of adult enrollment coordinators is on the Web at www.itshows.psu.edu/contact.

Contact Information for Prospective Adult Learners
Each Penn State campus has a staff that can assist you with questions regarding admission, financial aid, and more. Detailed contact information by campus is available online at itshows.psu.edu/contact.

Additional information is available from:
Campus Adult Enrollment Coordinators
http://itshows.psu.edu/contact

Admissions Office
http://admissions.psu.edu

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College Credit for Prior Learning Experiences

A guide for adult learners seeking:

- Credit by transfer
- College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)
- Credit for experience
- Credit for military training
- Advanced placement program (AP) credit
- Non-college portfolio assessment

Penn State in your career—It Shows

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce. Produced by Outreach Marketing and Communications. U.L.E.ST. 10.040170-ALE/D finalists/kwbrandt
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http://itshows.psu.edu | 800-222-3333
For many adult learners, the traditional path to a college degree can seem like a long one. Finding the time to complete a degree program can be challenging. However, at Penn State, it may not take as long as you think.

If you have prior college-level learning experiences—at another college or university, in the military, in the workplace, through self-study, or in high school—your academic adviser can help you identify how alternative credit acquisition can apply toward meeting your degree goals. At Penn State we’re ready to help you explore your options. Contact us to learn more.

Options for Credit Acquisition

Credit by Examination

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)
Administered by the College Board, CLEP provides college credit for examinations that test college-level knowledge in specific disciplines. CLEP test centers are conveniently located on several Penn State campuses across the state.

A schedule of credits awarded by Penn State for CLEP examinations is available online at http://admissions.psu.edu/academics/credit/clep. You must score in the fiftieth percentile or higher and may acquire no more than 60 credits through CLEP. After taking a CLEP examination, ask the College Board to send an official transcript to the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

CLEP exams are free for eligible military personnel and civilian employees. More information on CLEP is available online at www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/about.html.

Credit by Examination with Penn State
Students who have acquired substantial knowledge in a specific subject area may request an examination as a substitute for completing the usual classroom requirements of a course. Contact your adviser to initiate the process and obtain the appropriate form. Authorization to take the examination rests with the applicable academic department. A minimum grade of “C” (2.0) must be earned for credit to be awarded; pass/fail grades are not assigned. A per-credit fee is charged, regardless of the final grade.

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Credit for Noncollege Educational Experiences/Training in the Military
American Council on Education (ACE)—Experiences/Training
ACE evaluates noncollege educational experiences/training programs and recommends college credit where appropriate. These recommendations are posted on the military transcript (e.g., SMART, AARTS, and CCAF). If you are a veteran or a member of the active-duty armed services or reserves, you may be granted college credit for your educational experience/training by submitting your ACE-evaluated military transcript to the Undergraduate Admissions Office. Application of these credits to your program of study depends on your major and discussions with your academic adviser or department head.

Defense Activity Nontraditional Education Support (DANTES)
DANTES and the DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) may provide additional course work credits for your program of study, depending on your major. Complete the DANTES form to request the official transcript of the testing and the scores, and pay the fee for the scores to be sent to the Undergraduate Admissions Office. The academic department that offers a comparable course will review your results and determine whether or not credit may be awarded. Contact your academic adviser or the Undergraduate Admissions Office for more information.

Health and Physical Activity
Health and physical activity credit may be awarded to veterans or members of the active-duty armed services or the reserves upon completion of basic training. Use the Web site provided by your branch of service to have your military transcript (SMART, AARTS, and CCAF) sent to the Undergraduate Admissions Office for evaluation.