

Erie Business Center Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)

Policy

Erie Business Center will evaluate/assess the knowledge and skills students gain from life experiences (Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)) relative to the EBC course competencies. When the PLA demonstrates post-secondary-level learning and aligns with EBC's course competencies, EBC awards the post-secondary credit. EBC's PLA Policy is monitored, reviewed, evaluated and revised when required by the Director of Academics and the Administrative Team.

Types of PLA considerations include, but are not limited to:

- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- Articulation Agreements
- Military training/experience
- Apprenticeship
- Employment/work experience
- Volunteer work
- In-service programs
- Continuing education
- Local industry training programs
- Current industry standard certifications
- Professional licenses and certifications
- Student portfolios
- Skill demonstration
- College transcript for transfer credit (grade of C or higher)
- Test-out exams (published fee for all applicants)

Assessment of Prior Learning is based on EBC's course competencies

- The assessment process for awarding credit is conducted by EBC's Academic Department (department head, assistant academics director, or academics director).

- Evaluation of prior learning completed ten years before the request date is made at the discretion of the Academics Department.
- Transcript credit for prior learning will be transferred.

Procedures

- Student Eligibility: applicant information regarding PLA is available through the Admissions Office and the Academics Department (brochures, catalog, face-to-face meetings, website)
- Employment/Work/Life Experience: these credits are dependent on the student completing a preliminary application and interview with the appropriate Department Head prior to beginning the course. During the interview, the student will be given guidelines for the preparation of a detailed portfolio of information showing how the experience pertains to the course description.
- Assessment Tools: applicant may provide AP Exam scores or other recognized assessment data/documents. Recognized websites include, but are not limited to: <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Controller.ipf>;
<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/exams.html>;
https://www.excelsior.edu/Excelsior_College/Excelsior_College_Examinations;
http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/examinations/index.htm;
<http://www.getcollegecredit.com/index.html>;
<http://www.acenet.edu/nationalguide/>
- Transfer: the student's EBC transcript will reflect the transferred course(s).
- Appeals: applicant may appeal in writing to the Director of Academics; the Director of Academics and the Director of the Campus will review the appeal.
- Fees: N/A