



Academic Credit for Prior Learning

October 2018

Ami Magisos
Assistant Director, Policy and Planning
AmiM@WSAC.wa.gov
360.753.7823





Agenda

- **Background:** What is ACPL? Why is it important?
- **Accomplishments**
- **ACPL in 2017-2018**
- **Discussion: What would you like to see in the coming years?**
 - Washington information
 - Training and support
 - Other recommendations
- **Washington Adult Reengagement Initiative**
 - What is it?
 - Summit 11/28



Definitions

Prior learning is the knowledge and skills gained through:

- Work and life experience.
- Military training and experience.
- Formal and informal education and training.

Assessments are used to determine if the prior learning is at college level:

Category	Examples
Credits by testing	CLEP, DSST
Extra-institutional learning	ACE recommendations, industry certifications, crosswalks
Course challenges	Written, oral or demonstration
Prior Experiential learning	Portfolio



Awarding Credit

- Outcomes are assessed and found to be equivalent to specific college course outcomes.
- Awarding credit is consistent with the policies of the institution.

Limitations, portability and transparency:

- Prior *experiential* learning is limited to 25 percent of credits needed for a credential.
- Noted on college transcripts as *PEL*.
- Community and technical colleges ensure transferability of ACPL credits between them.



ACPL and Adult Reengagement

Help make college more affordable,
reducing cost and time to degree

Inspire confidence in future learning
potential

Launch students more quickly into
their chosen career pathways



Legislative Action


- 2010: SB6357
- 2011
 - ACPL work group
 - Goals
 - Annual progress report
- 2014
 - Military training policies
 - List of military training and programs that qualify for academic credit

THE ROADMAP

A Plan to Increase Educational Attainment in Washington



100%
High school diploma or equivalent



70%
Postsecondary credential

90%

Washington population ages 25-44

52%



Highlights of ACPL Work

- Workgroup members have been collaborative and engaged.
- Data collection:
 - Full participation last year (50 institutions)
 - Last year, increase in credits awarded: 41 percent.
- ACPL handbook and annual workshops:
 - Sample policies created.
 - Examples of assessments provided.
- WSAC webpage on ACPL



2017-2018 Data (80% Reporting)

Category	Program	Total Students	Total Quarter Credits
Credit by Testing	DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST)	17	190.5
	College Level Exam Program (CLEP)	268	3,461.5
Prior Experiential Learning	Portfolio Review (college level credits)	173	1,805
Extra-Institutional Learning	American Council of Education (ACE) (military training and education)	804	19,749.5
	Occupational Crosswalks (Military MOS, other)	500	14,689
	Individual Industry Cert (e.g. NCLEX-RN)	485	11,320
Course Challenges	Credit by Exam (generally a faculty or department-created course-specific assessment)	350	2,527
Totals students and credits		2,597	53,742.5



Recommended Actions 2016-2017

1. Streamline data collection process.
2. Develop more consistent acceptance of American Council on Education (ACE) guide military recommendations.
3. Increase adoption of crosswalks between industry training and certifications and college courses.
4. Explore opportunities to develop education or learning modules to fill gaps between existing industry or military training and college courses.
5. Conduct further analysis of enrollment of veterans, and academic credit for military training.
6. Continue to convene the ACPL work group on a regular basis.



Discussion on Developing ACPL

ACPL work group and learning opportunities:

1. Additional recommendations?
1. Training or professional development?

THE ROADMAP

A Plan to Increase Educational Attainment in Washington



100%

High school
diploma or
equivalent

90%

Washington population ages 25-44



70%

Postsecondary
credential

52%



Key Challenge Areas Toward Long-term Goals

Close Opportunity Gaps

- Remove system barriers for underserved students
- Provide support for underrepresented students

Support Regional Leaders

- Address regional workforce shortages
- Engage and support communities

Reconnect Adult Learners

- **Recruit and support adult learners**
- **Target former students with credits**

Provide Affordable High-Quality Pathways

- Provide multiple high-quality pathways
- Address financing and affordability gaps



Washington Adult Reengagement Initiative



Provide information and support to recruit, retain, and graduate adults who have not completed a credential.



Target Washington residents who have earned college credit without completing a credential.



Adult Reengagement Summit & Pave the Way

Adult Reengagement Summit

SAVE THE DATE

November 28, 2018

**READY
SET
GRAD**

**University of Washington, Seattle
Husky Union Building**



This year's
Pave the Way
Conference:
November 29
University of
Washington, Seattle
Husky Union
Building



WSAC's ACPL webpages:

<https://www.wsac.wa.gov/assessments-prior-learning>

Ami Magisos

Assistant Director, Policy and Planning

AmiM@wsac.wa.gov

360-753-7823