Academic Credit for Prior Learning
Work Group
Aug 27, 2020
Welcome and introductions

• Acknowledgements

• WSAC’s role

• Video chat participation
Objectives for today

• Review the ACPL work group charge, past accomplishments, and current context

• Identify 2020-2021 opportunities and goals in the areas of resources, training, communications and reporting

• Prioritize next steps for goal areas and confirm ACPL champions, liaisons and logistics
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
ACPL Work Group in context...

ACPL exists within a constellation of laws and policies...
- Institutional
- Sector
- State
- NWCCU

...and within a complex constellation of stakeholders
- Higher ed institutions
- Commissions and councils
- COP, SBCTC, ICW
- WSAC
- Military, workforce, labor
- Prospective students
- And more....
Highlights of ACPL Work

• Data and reports:
  • Full participation 2 years (50 institutions) and legislative reports
  • Disaggregated data case studies – Highline and Saint Martin’s University

• ACPL handbook and workshops:
  • Handbook: Sample policies, examples of assessments
  • Workshops: Last spring planned; previous by ACE

• Web presence:
  • WSAC webpage on ACPL
  • Prior learning info in College and Career Compass
Our current context

WICHE and CAEL 2020:

**Recognizing Prior Learning in the COVID-19 era**

**Initiative on Recognizing Learning**

- Landscape analysis: issues in practice, policies and research needs
- Research on academic outcomes: 25k Students, >25 years, 72 institutions
- Briefs, reports, toolkits
Higher degree completion for PLA students
Impact of PLA for Latinx, Black, Pell recipients, Community College students
Reduced time to degree for ACPL students
Increased residential credit earning

...And yet,

1 in 10 students earned at least 1 prior learning credit
WICHE and CAEL: Recommendations

- ACPL options available and well-promoted; workforce and college collaborations
- Systems to help students fully understand options
- Adjust financial aid models to cover assessment
- Creative partnerships among colleges to scale PLA for students’ and workers’ needs
Our current context

Washington mobile-first tool for adult learners
- Outreach and marketing to adult learners
- “Campus agnostic” key guidance
  - Credit for prior learning
  - Opportunity to share more details
www.Compass.wa.gov
Planning for 2020-2021 Directions

ACPL Data and annual reporting
- SBCTC for the CTCs
- Surveying policy, process, prices?
- Timing

- Disaggregated data: Next steps?
Planning for 2020-2021 Directions

Training and resources
- Handbook
- Other training options: Webinar? Canvas module?
- Workshop?
Planning for 2020-2021 Directions

New federal requirement
https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/34/668.43

-Federal law requires schools to ‘disclose any written criteria used to evaluate and award credit for prior learning experience. Includes but not limited to: service in the armed forces, paid or unpaid employment, or other demonstrated competency or learning
Planning for 2020-2021 Directions

Additional ideas:

-
Getting the work done

• Champions to move ACPL forward this year in this work?

• Liaisons to connect with other commissions / committees?

• Work Group follow up this year?
## Next Steps for 2020-2021 Directions

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WSAC’s ACPL webpages:
https://www.wsac.wa.gov/assessments-prior-learning

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Discussion questions

1. What data or information would help you examine ACPL success -
   • in your institution?
   • In our state?

2. Is current survey and report meeting our needs? In what ways would you like this survey and report to add value to ACPL work -
   • In your institution?
   • In our state?

3. Specifically, are there changes in current ACPL data collection, analysis and reporting that could help us get the information we would like?
Discussion and Summary

• What is our top priority this year for changing/improving the ACPL data collection and report? (keeping realistic view of resources, time and capacity)
Small Group Discussion:

• How does your institution define ACPL success?

• What do we think ACPL success statewide looks like?
Small Group Discussion:

- What elements of ACPL work do you think are most important for the work group this year?

Please brainstorm with attention to these three areas:

- Resource development
- Training
- Communication (with students, among practitioners, etc.)
• What are our top priorities for action this year (keeping realism in mind in resources, time and capacity)?