

TENNESSEE BOARD OF REGENTS COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA) SYSTEMWIDE STANDARDS  
RECOMMENDED CAMPUS STANDARDS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF CLEP CREDIT

The THEC Task Force on Prior Learning Assessment (PLA), which includes representatives from 12 TBR community colleges, has discussed the need to identify and adopt common standards with regard to the acceptance of credit for College-Level Education Program (CLEP) tests. Current standards are out of date and differ among campuses, which confuses students. Standards used by each institution will be posted on the PLA website that THEC will launch in July 2012.

It seems logical to begin the process of adopting common CLEP standards by establishing a common practice for the 13 community colleges. Adoption of the attached recommendations by all community colleges will result in the acceptance of identical scores and identical credits for each CLEP test among the community colleges. Universities will, by July 2012, develop common standards that build on the community college standards in terms of facilitating student progression.

Each community college can choose not to grant credit for a specific CLEP test. However, every community college agrees to follow these recommended standards in all cases where they do grant credit for CLEP exams. In addition, the community colleges will accept transfer credit awarded through CLEP exams in every case where a student has received the CLEP credit at a prior institution as part of the TBR common general education core or as part of a TN Transfer Pathway in accordance with guaranteed transfer policies.

The table below recommends that all TBR community colleges adopt the recommendations listed in the attached table for the CLEP score and for the number of student credit hours (SCH) for each CLEP examination. Upon adoption, community colleges should update their campus websites to provide current information. The table includes recommendations for:

- The CLEP score recommended by The College Board, which is deemed to be the equivalent to a grade of C on that specific exam. These recommendations are endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE).
- The TBR course which is most equivalent to the material on the examination and/or is included in the TBR common general education core or on a TN Transfer Pathway (TPP).
- The amount of credit recommended by The College Board for each course. The recommended credit in the table differs from the College Board's recommendations only if the TBR equivalent course carries a different number of credits than The College Board recommendation. For example, the table below recommends 8 SCH credit for the CLEP Chemistry exam, rather than the CLEP recommendation of 6, because TBR's CHEM 1110/1120 courses are each 4 SCH courses.

These standards were approved by the TBR Academic Affairs Subcouncil on April 18, 2012 and will go into effect for TBR community colleges effective fall semester, 2012

More information about the 33 CLEP tests, including some research on the subsequent college success of students receiving CLEP credit, is available at <http://clep.collegeboard.org>.

CLEP examination	Score Accepted by TBR CC's	Credit Granted by TBR CC's	Equivalent TBR CC Course
American Government	50	3	POLS 1030 Introduction to American Government
American Literature	50	6	ENGL 2110 & 2120 Survey of American Literature I & II
Analyzing & Interpreting Literature	50	6	Credit for Literature Requirement or specific ENGL course
Biology	50	8	BIOL 1110 & 1120 General Biology I & II
Calculus	50	4	MATH 1910 Calculus
Chemistry	50	8	CHEM 1110 & 1120 General Chemistry I & II
College Algebra	50	3	MATH 1130 College Algebra or MATH 1630 Finite Mathematics
College Composition (also Freshmen)	50	6	ENGL 1010 & 1020 Composition I & II
College Composition Modular	50	3/6	ENGL 1010 & 1020 Composition I & II
College Mathematics	50	3	MATH 1010 Math for Liberal Arts or Credit for college-level Mathematics Requirement
English Literature	50	6	ENGL 2010 & 2020 Intro to Literature I & II or ENGL 2210 & 2220 Survey of British Literature I & II
Financial Accounting	50	3	ACCT 1010 Principles of Accounting I
French Language, level 1	50	6	FREN 1010 & 1020 Beginning French I & II
French Language, level II	59	12	FREN 1010 & 1020 Beginning French I & II FREN 2010 & 2020 Intermediate French I & II
German Language, level 1	50	6	GERM 1010 & 1020 Beginning German I & II
German Language, level II	60	12	GERM 1010 & 1020 Beginning German I & II GERM 2010 & 2020 Intermediate German I & II
History of the United States I	50	3	HIST 2010 Survey of American History I
History of the United States II	50	3	HIST 2020 Survey of American History II
Human Growth and Development	50	3	Psychology of Human Growth & Development or Life Span Psychology (no common course #)
Humanities	50	6	Credit for Humanities Requirement
Information Systems & Computer Applications	50	3	INFS 1010 Computer Applications
Introduction to Educational Psychology	50	3	Educational Psychology (there is no common course number)
Introductory Business			

Law	50	3	Business Law (there is no common course #)
Introductory Psychology	50	3	PSYC 1030 Introduction to General Psychology
Introductory Sociology	50	3	SOCI 1010 Introduction to Sociology
Natural Sciences	50	8	BIOL 1010 & 1020 Intro to Biology I & II
Precalculus	50	3	MATH 1710 Precalculus I
Principles of Macroeconomics	50	3	ECON 2010 Macroeconomics
Principles of Management	50	3	Principles of Management (there is no common course number)
Principles of Marketing	50	3	Principles of Marketing (there e is no common course number)
Principles of Microeconomics	50	3	ECON 2020 Microeconomics
Social Sciences & History	50	6	Elective (there is no common course number)
Spanish Language, level I	50	6	SPAN 1010 & 1020 Beginning Spanish I & II
Spanish Language, level II	63	12	SPAN 1010 & 1020 Beginning Spanish I & II SPAN 2010 & 2020 Intermediate Spanish I & II
Western Civilization I	50	3	HIST 1010 Survey of Western Civilization I
Western Civilization II	50	3	HIST 1020 Survey of Western Civilization II

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