

# Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

# What is Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)?



Credit for prior learning, or prior learning assessment (PLA) as it is alternately known, is college credit awarded for validated skills and knowledge gained outside of coursework at a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

# Vision 2030 Goals

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Twelve bold actions fuel our transformation.  
From Dual Enrollment and Credit for Prior  
Learning to Climate-Responsive Teaching and  
Justice-Centered Pathways.

These initiatives ensure all of our students — especially veterans, working adults, and those who are justice-impacted have real pathways to economic mobility.



## Equitable Workforce and Economic Development

A worker-centered, industry-driven approach promotes workforce development by partnering community colleges with industry, agencies, and philanthropy to upskill workers and advance socio-economic mobility.

# Strategic Alignment with SBCCD Board Goals



**GOAL 1:** Eliminate barriers to student access and success

**GOAL 2:** Be a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and anti-racial institution

# Board Policy 4235, Credit for Prior Learning



Credit for prior learning may be earned for eligible courses approved by the district for students who satisfactorily pass an authorized assessment or examination. Authorized assessments may include the evaluation of approved external standardized examinations, joint services transcripts, student-created portfolios, and credit by examination. The Chancellor shall establish administrative procedures to implement this policy.

# Title 5 §55050 Credit for Prior Learning



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Title 5 §55050 subsection (a) identifies five types of CPL but is not limited to the following:

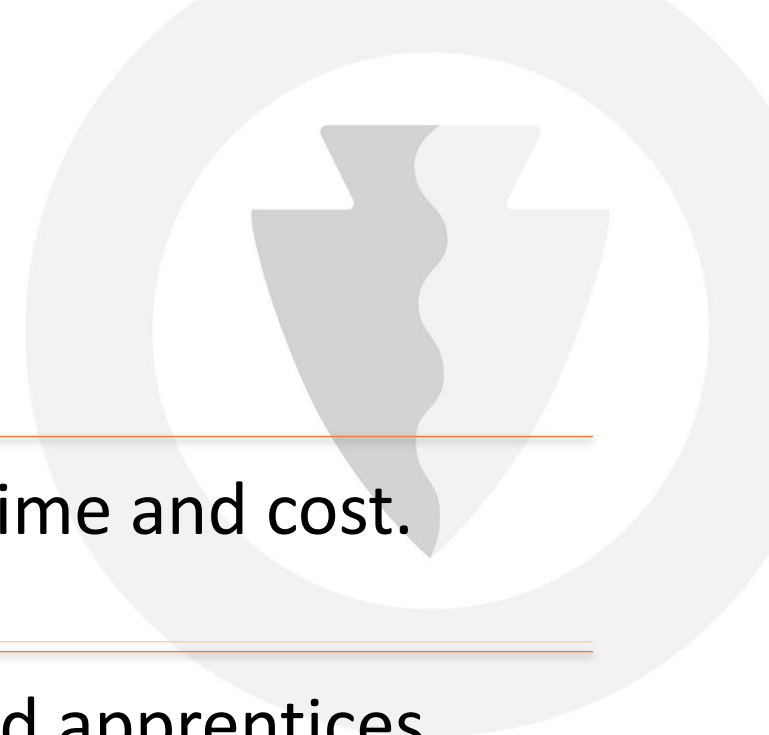
- Credit by examination (including high school articulation);
- Joint Services Transcripts (military training);
- Student created portfolios;
- Industry-recognized credential documentation;
- Standardized exams (AP, IB, CLEP, etc.).

# Types of Credit for Prior Learning





# Why (CPL) Matters?



**Accelerated  
Degree  
Completion**

Recognizes prior learning to reduce time and cost.

**Promoting Equity  
and Access**

Supports veterans, adult learners, and apprentices.

**Education –  
Workforce Bridge**

Connects real-world experience with career readiness.

**Community  
Impact**

Strengthens workforce skills and lifelong learning.



# SBCCD's CPL Programs



## Grant Awarded

- \$180,000 H RTP EDCT Grant

## Team Development

- CLP Team

## Course Mapping

- 100+ CTE courses mapped

## Course Cross-Listing

- 100+ courses are cross-listed

## Faculty Training

- 100+ trained faculty and staff

## District Collaboration

- CPL expansion and college partnerships

# CPL Pathways at SBCCCD

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## Diverse Credit Options

- Credit awarded via exams, military transcripts, certifications, and portfolios.

## Accelerated Completion

- Up to 45 units can be earned, saving time and cost.

## Quality & Equity

- Faculty-approved assessments ensure academic rigor and fair access.

## Guided Support/Outreach

- Veteran, and MAP/CPL counselors assist students through CPL opportunities and petitions.



# CPL and Career Pathways at SBCCCD



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## Career Pathway Integration

CPL awards credit based on each student's education plan, creating faster pathways into high-demand fields such as:

- Aeronautics
- Automotive Technology
- Computer Information Systems
- Nursing
- Water Supply Technology
- Welding

# Statewide Recognition

- 2024 MAP College of the Year  
Honored by the CCC Chancellor's Office  
for CPL excellence.
- CPL Leadership  
Recognized for advancing CPL for non-  
traditional learners.
- 1,575 articulations awarded to 258  
students



# Next Steps....

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## **Program Expansion**

Both colleges plan to expand CPL to more academic programs and departments to increase opportunities for students.

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## **Faculty Training and Outreach**

Continued faculty training ensures widespread understanding and adoption of CPL practices across the college.

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## **Industry and Military Partnerships**

Strengthening partnerships with industry and military organizations.

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## **Technology**

Integrate CPL into student system for tracking and reporting.

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## **Monitoring Outcomes and Savings**

The colleges will monitor student outcomes and financial savings to assess and improve program effectiveness.

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# Thank you!