

ACCREDITATION EVIDENCE

Title: Board Policy 5220D: Transfer of Credit

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HOME > CONSUMER INFORMATION > POLICIES & PROCEDURES > 5000 SERIES: STUDENTS > POLICY 5220D

Policy 5220D

TRANSFER OF CREDIT

Reference: Federal Requirement 34 CFR §602.249(e); WY State Statutes §21-16-1308(iii) and §21-18-202(vi); HLC Transfer criteria; and the ACE National Guide

Western Wyoming Community College (the College) shall provide a general education curriculum that ensures consistency, continuity, and quality. This shall safeguard the transferability of credit earned from Western to other colleges or universities.

The College's general education curriculum shall be based on:

- A philosophical rationale for each academic program offered by the institution, i.e., Associate of Arts, Associate of Nursing, Associate of Science, Associate of Applied Science and Bachelor of Applied Science;
- General education categories for the core curriculum; and
- Credit hour requirements for each category.

The College shall evaluate all transfer of credit from colleges and universities to:

- Validate that the coursework is similar and relevant to the coursework within the certificate or degree that the student is applying for admittance to;
- Review that all transfer credit meets the minimum grade requirement for each applicable course
- Ensure that the content is not outdated or obsolete. Please note that some courses that are more than ten (10) years old may not be transferable. In addition, courses must be no more than seven (7) years old for some health programs (please check with the department).
- Validate that the coursework was earned at a regionally accredited postsecondary institution. The <u>American Council</u> on <u>Education Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education</u> publication is used to identify appropriate accreditation. There are certain conditions under which international credit may be accepted.

Alternative Options for Credit: The Board believes there is validity in life experience learning. The College shall develop procedures that allow for granting a student credit for learning acquired from work or life experience, participating in courses or training sponsored by professional associations, businesses, industry, unions, the government, and the military or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or other recognized testing entity.

A maximum of 45 semester hours of transfer credits may be accepted toward Western's Associate degrees. A maximum of 90 semester hours of transfer credits may be accepted toward Western's Bachelor of Applied Science degrees. The College President and/or his/her designees shall maintain and publicize procedures to comply with this policy. Transfer information shall be available to the public on the institution's website, catalog and other pertinent information.

Policy included in Catalog Adopted: March 8, 1984



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Procedure 5220D

TRANSFER OF CREDIT

Transferability of Western Credits

Any student who has successfully completed courses - the equivalent of grade "C" or above - identified in the articulated academic program offered by the institution, i.e., Associate of Arts, Associate of Nursing, Associate of Science, and Associate of Applied Science general education curriculum and who is admitted in transfer to a receiving institution will be granted standing comparable to current students who have completed the same number of equivalent credit courses toward an associate/baccalaureate-level degree and will be able to progress toward associate/baccalaureate degree completion at a rate comparable to that of students who entered the associate/baccalaureate institution as first-time freshmen.

To assure students of comparable treatment, receiving institutions agree to the following standards and procedures:

- Receiving institutions will accept the core of general education for direct application to their degree or major requirements;
- Receiving institutions may require admitted transfer students to complete institution-wide general education requirements not included in the transferable core.
- Receiving institutions will grant equivalent general education credit for satisfactorily completed courses identified in the general education core to students admitted in transfer who began but did not complete the Associate of Arts Degree at an accredited receiving institution.

The official signed agreement shall be housed in the College's Chief Academic Officer's office. The College's Chief Student Services Officer shall be provided a copy of that agreement and shall share that with his/her advising staff and the Registrar. The College's Marketing Office shall also be provided a copy and that articulation agreement shall be posted on the College's official webpage for public notice.

Acceptance of Credit from Other Higher Education Institutions

Credits earned by a student from another regionally accredited college or university which are in compliance with - Board Policy 5220D shall be accepted as meeting Associate of Arts (AA), Associate Degree of in Nursing (ADN), or Associate of Science (AS). Credits earned by a student which are applicable to specific Associate of Applied Science (AAS) or occupational certificate programs which are approved by the Board shall be accepted as meeting degree or certificate requirements in comparable or equivalent programs.

FROM BACCALAUREATE-GRANTING INSTITUTIONS: Lower division credits earned by students enrolled in baccalaureate granting institutions (accredited by nationally recognized regional accrediting associations) of higher education which are applicable to BA or BS degrees shall be accepted as meeting the general education requirements for the AA or AS degrees.

Alternative Options for Awarding Western Credit

The College may grant a maximum of 40 credit hours for life experience learning toward an associate degree. Transfer of these life experience credits to other institutions, however, is at their discretion. Grades on these courses are noted as either S or U on the student's transcripts.



A student who earns a specified score on a conege Level Examination Program (CLEP) examination receive conege credit in Mustang Athletics that course. There is a fee for each exam. Further information on fees, subject tests, required scores and scheduling is available in Mustang Success.

To receive credit for these exams, students must achieve a specified score and have an active Western transcript. Since these core requirements are constantly under review, students should discuss the current requirements with Registration and Records.

Credit by Examination

A student may request credit by examination for any course for which a CLEP test is not available. If the exam indicates the student is as proficient as a typical student who completes the course, the College will award that student credit for that course.

The student, furthermore, will be allowed to take an advanced course or to proceed to other courses. Four conditions, however, apply:

- Must be enrolled at Western.
- Cannot take the exam during the last thirty calendar days of the semester.
- Cannot earn credit by examination if he or she has completed a higher level course in the same subject.
- Must pay the established fee for taking the examination.

Outside Courses and Programs

Students may receive college credit if they have taken courses or programs, for example, while working for a business or while in the military, and these courses are listed in an appropriate credit assessment guide.

Students with military service also will receive credit for physical education in accordance with the recommendations of the Accreditation of Service Experiences. Credit will also be given to students who have successfully completed advanced military science courses.

Students must request credit for military service in writing and must submit appropriate documentation.

Credit for Similar Work

If a student believes that he or she has completed work that corresponds to the work required for particular Western course, that student may submit a written request to the Registrar asking for credit for that course. The student must submit supporting material and documentation. The Registrar will review the material, and forward it to the Division Chairperson and the appropriate instructor for a recommendation. The student will be notified by the Registrar of the

results.

Adopted: May 26, 1977 Revised: January 26, 1984 Approved: May 26, 1988 Revised: January 12, 2006 Revised: July 16, 2008 Reformatted: April 29,2011 Revised: October 16, 2014 Revised: June 17, 2021



5000 Series: Students

IAM FAQ TOUR ABOUT MY WESTERN APPLY

Academics Admissions & Aid Student Life Calendars

Mustang Athletics Q

Policy 5110A			
Policy 5110B			
Policy 5110C			
Policy 5110D			
Policy 5210A			
Policy 5210B			
Policy 5220A			
Policy 5220B			
Policy 5220C			
Policy 5220D			
Policy 5230A			
Policy 5230B			
Policy 5230F			
Policy 5240A			
Policy 5240D			
Policy 5240E			
Policy 5240F			
Policy 5260A			
Policy 5310A			
Policy 5420A			
Policy 5420E			
Policy 5420F			
Policy 5430A			
Policy 5430B			
Policy 5430C			
Policy 5430D			

Policy 5430E

Policy 5440A

Policy 5450B

Policy 5450D

Policy 5460A

Policy 5460B

Policy 5460C

Policy 5520A

Policy 5610A

Policy 5620A



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Want to learn more about us?

Western is an award-winning college in both our on-campus and distance learning programs. We believe our students come first, and your success is our #1 priority. Our motto says it best: "Enter with passion, leave with purpose". Let us help you on your path to success!

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