

IU Kokomo Credit by Examination Procedures—Proposal

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Overview

This document proposes we update our policies on credit by examination. It will provide a brief rationale and then make a proposal for each test.

Rationale

There are many reasons to adopt this proposal, including those below.

First, many of these changes are required to place us in compliance with [Indiana University Policy ACA-78 Transfer Credit Related to Military Service](#). This policy was implemented so the university would be in compliance with state law. The policy requires IU campuses to accept credit from military veterans for CLEP, DSST, and Excelsior exams. While it is not required by law, it seems fair to treat all students the same, whether or not they are veterans; thus, we should expand this policy to include non-veterans.

Second, our campus has not updated many of our policies for these tests for some time. Our policies on AP credit need updated, and we need to develop a policy for IB credit. Lacking updated policies places us at a disadvantage in recruiting students and may perform a disservice to some students. Admissions and advising keep being contacted concerning many of these forms of credit and our lack of clear, current policies is causing problems.

Third, all of these help students advance toward graduation and will promote student success, retention, and completion.

Goals

By the end of the academic year, we will have updated procedures in place for each of these types of exam. These will be clearly posted on our website to provide transparency to prospective students. While this proposal seems somewhat long, completing it should not take more than a few hours of any faculty member's time.

CLEP

CLEP exams are a group of standardized tests created and administered by the College Board, the same organization responsible for AP courses and exams. IUK currently accepts CLEP credit in a few areas. These have not been updated for some time and are not in compliance with IU policy and state law. IU policy requires that military veterans receive distributed or undistributed credit for all CLEP exams receiving a score of 50 or higher. We propose the following:

- CLEP credit be made available to all students, whether or not they are veterans.
- For each CLEP exam, faculty in that exam area's discipline will determine how to treat credit for students scoring a 50 or higher on an exam: as specific courses or as undistributed credit within a discipline.

- Faculty are encouraged to consult policies of other campuses. Faculty will be provided with information of CLEP policies for other IU campuses.
- The American Council on Education recognizes this credit and describes the program and courses here:
<http://www2.acenet.edu/credit/?fuseaction=browse.getOrganizationDetail&FICE=300172>
- This will be completed by February 15, 2017.

DSST Exams

These exams, formerly known as Dantes, were originated by the US Department of Defense but now owned by the Prometric corporation. IU policy requires us to award distributed or undistributed credit for all military veterans receiving successful DSST scores. We propose the following:

- DSST credit be made available to all students, whether or not they are veterans.
- For each DSST exam, faculty in that exam area's discipline will determine how to treat credit for students with a successful score on an exam: as specific courses or as undistributed credit within a discipline.
- Faculty are encouraged to consult policies of other campuses. Purdue University has a fairly comprehensive list of how these courses transfer in, and other IU campuses have partial lists.
- The American Council on Education recognizes this credit and describes the program and courses here:
<http://www2.acenet.edu/credit/?fuseaction=browse.getOrganizationDetail&FICE=300162>
- This will be completed by February 15, 2017.

Excelsior Exams

Excelsior College Examinations are offered by Excelsior College in New York. IU policy requires us to award distributed or undistributed credit for all military veterans receiving successful Excelsior scores. They are recognized by the American Council on Education. We propose the following:

- Excelsior credit be made available to all students, whether or not they are veterans.
- For each Excelsior exam, faculty in that exam area's discipline will determine how to treat credit for students with a successful score on an exam: as specific courses or as undistributed credit within a discipline.
- Faculty are encouraged to consult policies of other campuses. Purdue University has a fairly comprehensive list of how these courses transfer in.
- The American Council on Education recognizes this credit and describes the program and courses here:
<http://www2.acenet.edu/credit/?fuseaction=browse.getOrganizationDetail&FICE=300321>
- This will be completed by February 15, 2017.

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

AP Exams are a national effort administered by the College Board and are tied to high school course with a national final exam. AP Exams are widely recognized. IU does not have a policy requiring AP credit. Our campus has long accepted AP credit. However, we have not updated our AP policies for quite some time. AP exams have recently been significantly revised, and our current policies do not always align with current AP exams, causing problems as students are admitted. Students with AP exam credit are

often highly talented, and we would like to see more of them come to our campus. Clear, updated AP policies will help us recruit such students. We propose the following:

- For each AP exam, faculty in that exam area's discipline will determine how to treat credit for students with various scores on an exam: awarding no credit, specific course credit, or as undistributed credit within a discipline.
- Faculty are encouraged to consult policies of other campuses. IUPUI has a fairly comprehensive list of how these courses transfer in.
- The American Council on Education recognizes this credit and describes the program and courses here:
<http://www2.acenet.edu/credit/?fuseaction=browse.getOrganizationDetail&FICE=300321>
- This will be completed by February 15, 2017.

International Baccalaureate (IB) Exams

International Baccalaureate (IB) credit is run by an international educational foundation. Much like AP, it combines rigorous high school classes and standardized final examinations. IU does not have a policy requiring we accept IB credits. However, students with such credit are often highly talented and as such are students we would like to attract. We are seeing an increase of students applying seeking IB credit, with Kokomo High School recently starting to offer an IB diploma (other high schools offering IB diplomas include schools located in Carmel, Noblesville, and Fishers). Clear, updated IB policies will help us recruit such students. We propose the following:

- For each IB exam, faculty in that exam area's discipline will determine how to treat credit for students with various scores on an exam: awarding no credit, specific course credit, or as undistributed credit within a discipline.
- Faculty are encouraged to consult policies of other campuses. Faculty will be provided with the policies of other IU campuses for comparison. IUPUI and Purdue have fairly extensive lists of IB credit transfers.
- This will be completed by February 15, 2017.

Administration

Faculty will be supported in this endeavor by the Office of Academic Affairs via the AVCAA and Deans. The AVCAA will provide any needed assistance and compile the final lists, communicating them to Advising and Admissions.