



Questions and Answers for the WTCS Credit for Prior Learning

May 15, 2009

(Answers based on: WTCS Board Policy Document (November 2008) & Education Services Manual – Section 12 (February 2009))

- 1. A student applying to College B is asking for credit for general education courses earned at another WTCS college (College A) through an applied associate degree. The student earned 27 credits from the College A. The degree they are seeking at College B requires 27 credits of general education. Can we award credit?**

Yes, College B can award credit from College A in an equal amount because WTCS has aligned and recognized uniform general education courses. However, this assumes that College B has reevaluated the credits from College A to determine if they meet the requirements of College B's program.

- 2. A student applying to College A is asking for credit from general education courses earned at a university through a four-year degree. The student earned 32 general education credits at the university. The degree they are seeking at College A requires 27 credits of general education. Can we award credit for the university courses?**

Yes, College A can award credit from a four-year university degree. College A needs to assess the competencies earned at the university to determine if they meet the requirements of the program. At least 27 out of the 32 credits must meet the requirements of the program at College A.

- 3. A student applying to College B is asking for credit from occupation-specific courses earned within a technical diploma at a WTCS college (College A). Can we award credit?**

Yes, College B can award credit from occupation-specific courses earned as a part of a technical diploma at another WTCS College (College A). College B can determine how much credit to award based upon an assessment of the competencies and performance measures of the technical diploma courses.

- 4. A student wants to enroll in an applied associate degree program and is asking for credit for prior learning associated with a one-year technical diploma they earned from the same college. Can we award the technical diploma credits towards an applied associate degree?**

Yes, the college can award credit from a one-year technical diploma and apply it to an applied associate degree program. The college needs to assess the competencies and performance measures earned in the technical diploma and determine if they meet the requirements of the applied associate degree.

- 5. A student applying to College B is asking for 11 credits earned at another WTCS college (College A) through an applied associate degree. Our college will award the 11 credits. How are the 11 credits used for the student's transcript?**

College B can award the 11 credits from another WTCS college (College A) and apply them towards the requirements of the program. The college determines how the credit information is listed on the transcript and whether or not awarded credit will carry a letter grade. College B also needs to identify any situations in which the awarded credit counts in computing the student's grade point average.

- 6. A student is applying to College A and is asking for credit for prior learning based on the completion of a Wisconsin registered apprenticeship program. The student wants to begin work on an associate degree. Can we award credit for the apprenticeship?**

Yes, if the student satisfactorily completed a WTCS program of apprenticeship-related technical instruction and possesses a Certificate of Apprenticeship issued by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards (DWD-BAS), the college may award 39 credits as fulfilling the 39-credit minimum Technical Studies requirement of the Technical Studies – Journey Worker Associate of Applied Science degree. The WTCS apprentice program must include at least 400 hours of prescribed apprentice-related technical instruction to fulfill the 39-credit minimum.

- 7. A student is applying to College A and is asking for credit for prior learning based on the completion of an apprenticeship program in another state. The student wants to begin work on an associate degree. Can we award credit for the apprenticeship?**

The College needs to apply the experiential learning component of the Credit for Prior Learning policies because the apprenticeship was completed in another state. For the purposes of these policies, this is not a Wisconsin registered DWD-BAS apprenticeship (including at least 400 hours of WTCS instruction) and is considered prior work experience and/or industry training.

- 8. A student who earned a high school degree is requesting credit for prior learning. How are credits awarded to high school students?**

Students need to present documentation that the high school credits were earned through course work and/or work-based learning. Colleges need to review the articulation agreements connected to co-op, youth apprenticeship, and youth options to determine the appropriate credits to be awarded.