

HB20-1002 Work Based Learning: Update

CCHE Standing Committee Meeting

05/20/21

Prior Learning Study



The process by which a student can receive academic credit for any course in the undergraduate curriculum, free of tuition, through successful completion of a portfolio assessment, individual assessment, examination or any combination thereof that is appropriate to the learning outcomes of the course



The potential benefits to a student, including but not limited to impact on a student's overall attendance cost, whether a policy would accelerate the time to complete a postsecondary credential, and the impact on the state's goal to increase credential attainment rates



The costs to institutions to develop and maintain processes to grant academic credit to a student for prior learning and the ability to recover administrative costs from students requesting prior learning assessment

The process

Literature Review
Data Gathering



CO Institutions:
Passive review



CO Institutions:
Survey



CO Institutions:
Interviews



Draft: In Progress



Submit to CDHE:
June 2021

Emerging Information

Exemplary Models

- System of intake and evaluation in place
- Identified PLA Coordinator position
- Student facing, easily accessed information
- Course-to-course transfer
- Available for GE, GT, and courses in the Major
- Local Articulations in WBL areas – ATC, CC, College/University
- Processes in place for evaluating all learning

Examples:

Metro State University, CSU Global, UCCS, CCCS Colleges

Perceptions

Positive:

- Increased opportunity for returning adult students: recognition of WBL, reduced cost/time to degree
- Re-focuses work toward adult learners
- Get more students into career pathways
- Excellent recruitment tool

Negative:

- Lack of rigor will weaken curriculum
- Cost of evaluating lab-based courses is prohibitive
- Capacity cannot meet increased demand
- Opportunity for misuse by students (shopping credits)
- Accreditors
- Overly broad charge doesn't take mission differences into account

Concerns

- Decentralized processes and evaluation
- Equity of access and evaluation
- Block transfer credit/elective credit
- Gauntlet: Limited access unless student exerts significant effort
- Varied degrees of transparency and consistency
- Duplication of effort
- Local data not known and/or not used to examine CPL outcomes

The Plan Draft

To date: May 2021

The Plan Defined

A process for assessing and aligning work related experience to the knowledge and competencies required for awarding postsecondary academic credit for courses in GT Pathways or a statewide degree transfer agreement

A process for evaluating credentials earned by a student at an area technical college...and determining how postsecondary academic credit will transfer, if appropriate, to public two-year and four-year state institutions of higher education

Council shall consult with representatives of:

- Institutions, including, but not limited to, faculty and registrars
- Student organizations
- The Colorado Workforce Development Council
- Industries with high workforce demand and growing industries

GE Subcommittee work to date:

- Have met 5 times
- Have drafted a Plan matrix with steps for evaluation of WBL credentials for transferable credit
- Have identified IT, Healthcare, and Project Management credentials/certifications for review to test the Plan efficacy
- Next steps: take draft Plan and examples to Fac 2 Fac convenings for input and feedback
- Draft Plan to CDHE staff by June 2021
- Draft Plan submitted to Commission by Sept 1, 2021

Questions

