TENNESSEE BOARD OF REGENTS COMMUNITY COLLEGES

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA) SYSTEMWIDE STANDARDS

RECOMMENDED CAMPUS STANDARDS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF CLEP CREDIT

Each community college can choose not to grant credit for a specific CLEP test. However, every community college agrees to follow these recommended standards in all cases where they do grant credit for CLEP exams. In addition, the community colleges will accept transfer credit awarded through CLEP exams in every case where a student has received the CLEP credit at a prior institution as part of the TBR common general education core or as part of a TN Transfer Pathway in accordance with guaranteed transfer policies.

The table below recommends that all TBR community colleges adopt the recommendations listed in the attached table for the CLEP score and for the number of student credit hours (SCH) for each CLEP examination. Upon adoption, community colleges should update their campus websites to provide current information. The table includes recommendations for:

* The CLEP score recommended by The College Board, which is deemed to be the equivalent to a grade of C on that specific exam. These recommendations are endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE).
* The TBR course which is most equivalent to the material on the examination and/or is included in the TBR common general education core or on a TN Transfer Pathway (TPP).
* The amount of credit recommended by The College Board for each course. The recommended credit in the table differs from the College Board’s recommendations only if the TBR equivalent course carries a different number of credits than The College Board recommendation. For example, the table below recommends 8 SCH credit for the CLEP Chemistry exam, rather than the CLEP recommendation of 6, because TBR’s CHEM 1110/1120 courses are each 4 SCH courses.

These standards were approved by the TBR Academic Affairs Subcouncil on April 18, 2012, and went into effect for TBR community colleges effective fall semester, 2012. Updates were made in 2022 to account for revised and new CLEP offerings.

More information about the 34 CLEP tests, including some research on the subsequent college success of students receiving CLEP credit, is available at <http://clep.collegeboard.org>.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CLEP examination** | **Score Accepted by TBR CC’s** | **Credit Granted by TBR CC’s** | **Equivalent TBR CC Course** |
| American Government | 50 | 3 | POLS 1030 Introduction to American Government |
| American Literature | 50 | 6 | ENGL 2110 & 2120 Survey of American Literature I & II |
| Analyzing & Interpreting Literature | 50 | 6 | Credit for Literature Requirement or specific ENGL course |
| Biology | 50 | 8 | BIOL 1110 & 1120 General Biology I & II |
| Calculus | 50 | 4 | MATH 1910 Calculus |
| Chemistry | 50 | 8 | CHEM 1110 & 1120 General Chemistry I & II |
| College Algebra | 50 | 3 | MATH 1130 College Algebra or  MATH 1630 Finite Mathematics |
| College Composition  (also Freshmen) | 50 | 6 | ENGL 1010 & 1020 Composition I & II |
| College Composition  Modular | 50 | 3/6 | ENGL 1010 & 1020 Composition I & II |
| College Mathematics | 50 | 3 | MATH 1010 Math for Liberal Arts or  Credit for college-level Mathematics Requirement |
| English Literature | 50 | 6 | ENGL 2010 & 2020 Intro to Literature I & II or  ENGL 2210 & 2220 Survey of British Literature I & II |
| Financial Accounting | 50 | 3 | ACCT 1010 Principles of Accounting I |
| French Language, level 1 | 50 | 6 | FREN 1010 & 1020 Beginning French I & II |
| French Language, level II | 59 | 12 | FREN 1010 & 1020 Beginning French I & II  FREN 2010 & 2020 Intermediate French I & II |
| German Language, level 1 | 50 | 6 | GERM 1010 & 1020 Beginning German I & II |
| German Language, level II | 60 | 12 | GERM 1010 & 1020 Beginning German I & II  GERM 2010 & 2020 Intermediate German I & II |
| History of the United States I | 50 | 3 | HIST 2010 Survey of American History I |
| History of the United States II | 50 | 3 | HIST 2020 Survey of American History II |
| Human Growth and Development | 50 | 3 | Psychology of Human Growth & Development or Life Span Psychology (no common course #) |
| Humanities | 50 | 6 | Credit for Humanities Requirement |
| Information Systems | 50 | 3 | INFS 1010 Computer Applications |
| Introduction to Educational Psychology | 50 | 3 | Educational Psychology (there is no common course number) [[1]](#footnote-1) |
| Introductory Business Law | 50 | 3 | Business Law (there is no common course #) |
| Introductory Psychology | 50 | 3 | PSYC 1030 Introduction to General Psychology |
| Introductory Sociology | 50 | 3 | SOCI 1010 Introduction to Sociology |
| Natural Sciences | 50 | 8 | BIOL 1010 & 1020 Intro to Biology I & II |
| Precalculus | 50 | 3 | MATH 1710 Precalculus I |
| Principles of Macroeconomics | 50 | 3 | ECON 2010 Macroeconomics |
| Principles of Management | 50 | 3 | Principles of Management (there is no common course number) |
| Principles of Marketing | 50 | 3 | Principles of Marketing (there e is no common course number) |
| Principles of Microeconomics | 50 | 3 | ECON 2020 Microeconomics |
| Social Sciences & History | 50 | 6 | Elective (there is no common course number) |
| Spanish Language, level I | 50 | 6 | SPAN 1010 & 1020 Beginning Spanish I & II |
| Spanish Language, level II | 63 | 12 | SPAN 1010 & 1020 Beginning Spanish I & II  SPAN 2010 & 2020 Intermediate Spanish I & II |
| Spanish with Writing, level I | 50 | 6 | SPAN 1010 & 1020 Beginning Spanish I & II |
| Spanish with Writing, level II | 65 | 12 | SPAN 1010 & 1020 Beginning Spanish I & II  SPAN 2010 & 2020 Intermediate Spanish I & II |
| Western Civilization I | 50 | 3 | HIST 1010 Survey of Western Civilization I |
| Western Civilization II | 50 | 3 | HIST 1020 Survey of Western Civilization II |

1. The Spanish Language and Spanish with Writing CLEP exams are both one exam. The Level I and Level II designations correspond to language proficiency and, therefore, can be used to award credit for prior learning. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)