Credit for Prior Learning evaluation is the process of earning credit for college-level learning acquired through a variety of resources. Through Credit for Prior Learning evaluation, Louisiana’s Community and Technical Colleges offer students the opportunity to earn college credit for knowledge and skills attained through educational or work experiences.

Each LCTCS institution shall develop policies and procedures pertaining to the awarding of credit to enrolled students by non-traditional means. Colleges shall establish an application deadline each semester by which students can be guaranteed a complete evaluation for prior learning credit. Such credit may include - but is not limited to - CLEP, AP, DSST, and other institutional examination programs; the institution’s faculty-developed challenge exams; credit for past learning and/or life experiences; ASVAB/military testing (i.e. promotion, Advanced Individual Training) and industry-based certifications; portfolio assessment of college level learning acquired through work experiences; non-academic instruction evaluated by the American Council on Education (ACE); State or National Certification (Certification for Manufacturing -C4M) and others as approved by the institution’s chief academic officer. Students may be assessed a fee for the administration of examinations and for the evaluation of credentials when credit is being requested.

Each LCTCS institution must establish its Credit for Prior Learning policies in accordance with the criteria of its accrediting agency. Relative to the awarding of Credit for Prior Learning, the appropriate faculty/staff of each institution shall determine the level of student performance necessary to demonstrate satisfactory mastery of course content. Students must be enrolled at the institution from which they are requesting non-traditional credit.