CCHE Policy I-X Prior Learning Assessment

Colorado Commission on Higher Education
Policies and Procedures
Section I. Academic Affairs, Part X. Prior Learning Assessment

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1.00 Introduction

Learning obtained outside the classroom can be assessed and documented through a variety of types of Prior Learning Assessment (PLA). The purposes of this policy are:

- to set statewide expectations for awarding college credit for PLA,
- to ensure that credits awarded for PLA by one institution are not lost in transfer, and
- provide transparent information to students, families, and advisors.

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education recognizes that valuable learning occurs in academic, workplace, military, community, and other experiential settings. Prior Learning Assessment promotes learner success by validating demonstrated competencies, reducing barriers to credential attainment, lowering educational costs, shortening time to completion, and supporting Colorado's goal of increasing the number of learners who benefit from valuable career skills that lead to economic opportunity and mobility.

2.00 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish statewide standards for evaluating and awarding academic credit for prior learning to lower educational costs, shorten time to completion, and remove barriers to credential attainment. In accordance with statutory directives—including legislative declarations recognizing students' rights to have work-related experience and industry credentials fairly evaluated (§23-5-145.5, C.R.S.)—this policy ensures that demonstrated learning gained through workplace, military, exam, and experiential settings is validated and automatically transferable across Colorado public institutions to directly support statewide workforce and economic mobility goals.

3.00 Authority

This policy is based on the following Colorado Revised Statute(s):

- §23-1-108.5(5), C.R.S.: Automatic transferability of GT Pathways credits.
- §23-1-113.2(2), C.R.S.: Credit allocation for International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma holders.
- §23-1-125(1), (3), (4), & (4.5), C.R.S.: Student transfer rights, test-out/challenge options, and PLA policy adoption.
- §23-1-108(7)(b)(II)(A), C.R.S.: Transfer rights for Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement (STAA) degrees.

- §23-5-145(2) & §23-5-145.5, C.R.S.: Accepting GT Pathways PLA in transfer and granting credit for work-related experience.

See Appendix A for specific provisions from these statutes relevant to this policy.

4.00 Definitions

1. "**Degree with Designation**" means a two-year degree with academic designation in a particular discipline or interdisciplinary field, and that is part of a Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement), as described in §23-60-211, C.R.S.
2. "**Department**" means the Colorado Department of Higher Education created and existing pursuant to section §24-1-114, C.R.S.
3. **"GT Pathways"** means the guaranteed transfer pathways matrix as described in §23-1-108.5, §23-1-125(3), and §23-1-125(6), C.R.S. GT Pathways courses are approved through the statewide faculty review process administered by the Department and General Education Council and must satisfy the approved GT Pathways competency and content criteria.
4. **"Prior Learning Assessment"** is the evaluation—using approved practices—of learning that occurs outside of the institution where a student is enrolled or may enroll. Learning can be demonstrated by a student through achieving a certain score on a national exam; through achieving a certain score or rating on an institutionally devised exam or other assessment; through performance in a course taken at another institution; through completion of certain military training, education, and occupational programs; and through work products and other professional achievements included in a student's portfolio.
5. **"Responsible Third Party"** means a Colorado public institution of higher education that participates in a Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement or GT Pathways and that has formally evaluated and awarded transfer credit consistent within these statewide agreements.
6. "**Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement**," or STAA means a transfer agreement between Colorado's public two-year and four-year institutions that guarantees automatic transfer of all credit hours from an associate Degree with Designation into a related bachelor's degree program, pursuant to §23-1-108(7)(a), C.R.S
7. "**Transfer**" means transferring the credit for courses taken at one institution of higher education to another. It is important to note that while most coursework can transfer, not all credit can be applied to a student's chosen major. That is, the receiving institution will usually accept coursework in transfer and list those

courses on the student's transcript but may not be able to apply the credit for those courses to any of the requirements in the student's degree program.

8. "**Underlying Documentation**" means source materials used by a responsible third party to evaluate and award transfer credit, including but not limited to: course syllabi, exam score reports (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP), JSTs or other official military credit documentation, industry certifications, and official transcripts from other postsecondary institutions.

5.00 Policy Goals

The policy goals are to provide guidance on each entity's role in the implementation of prior learning assessment to:

1. Promote student success
2. Reduce barriers to credential attainment
3. Support workforce and economic mobility
4. Ensure statewide transferability
5. Promote transparency

6.00 Prior Learning Assessment Standards

6.01 General Transfer Provisions

6.01.01 Acceptance of GT Pathways PLA Credit

Every Colorado public institution of higher education shall accept in transfer from within the institution and from other state institutions of higher education prior learning assessment credit awarded for GT Pathways requirements in accordance with the CCHE Statewide Transfer and GT Pathways policy.

6.01.02 Use of PLA for General Education Requirements

Colorado public institutions of higher education shall not prohibit students from meeting general education/GT Pathways requirements with prior learning assessment credit.

6.01.03 Application of Excess Credit

Once a GT Pathways content area requirement has been met, any additional credit may be awarded to fulfill other degree requirements, such as general education, elective or major/prerequisite credit. For example, the GT Pathways history requirement is 3 credits. If a student brings passing cut scores on two different history exams (such as US History and also World History, which qualifies the student

for at least 6 credits), then the student shall receive 3 credits applied towards the GT Pathways history requirement. Any additional credits may be awarded to fulfill other degree requirements, such as general education, elective or major/prerequisite credit. Institutions are cautioned to consider financial aid implications when awarding credits that do not apply to any degree requirements.

6.01.04 Minimum Application of GT Credit

At least 3 credit hours shall apply first to the appropriate GT Pathways content area requirements until the amount of credit has been met for that GT Pathways content area.

6.01.05 Course Articulation Requirements

Credit awarded shall be articulated as a course satisfying the appropriate GT Pathways category at the institution. When there is no equivalent, the institution shall create a generic transfer equivalency for a course in that GT Pathways content area (i.e., GT-AH1, GT-AH2, and etc.).

6.01.06 Presumption of Transferability

GT Pathways credit, PLA credit applied to GT Pathways, and credits within a protected Degree with Designation are presumed transferable and do not require routine resubmission of underlying documentation.

6.01.07 Acceptance of Prior Evaluations

Institutions shall accept and apply prior learning assessment credit awarded pursuant to GT Pathways requirements or included in an awarded Degree with Designation, as reflected on the official transcript of a Colorado public institution, without re-evaluating the academic merit of the credit or requiring the student to submit underlying documentation used by a responsible third party to evaluate and award that credit, except as otherwise provided in Section 6.01.08.

6.01.08 Underlying Documentation Requests

Receiving institutions may request underlying documentation when:

(a) Credit cannot be identified on an official transcript or evaluation;

(b) Insufficient information exists (e.g., exam scores and details) to identify the credit awarded and determine applicability under this policy; or

(c) Necessary to satisfy accreditation, licensure, fraud prevention, transcript irregularity, or officially documented evaluation concerns.

6.01.09 Transfer Limitations

Institutions shall not impose limits on the transfer or acceptance of PLA credit beyond residency requirements established by institutional policy, accreditation standards, or applicable law.

6.01.10 Applicability to Major Requirements

While the Commission may establish and publish conditions for applicability of PLA credit toward meeting GT Pathways requirements—and in the case of work-related experience articulated in Section 6.00, toward meeting the requirements for courses within a Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement—institutions will establish and publish conditions for applicability of PLA credit toward meeting requirements of the major. In the case of transfer, the receiving institution shall determine if the PLA credit awarded by the sending institution can apply to the major requirements at the receiving institution.

6.01.11 Military Credit Policies

Institutions, through their governing boards, shall adopt and maintain policies governing the award of academic credit for military training, education, and experience in accordance with §23-5-145(2), C.R.S. Such policies shall, at a minimum, address:

(a) The types of military documentation accepted for evaluation;
(b) The processes used to evaluate military learning and determine credit awards;
(c) Alignment, where applicable, with nationally recognized standards for credit recommendations;
(d) The potential application of awarded credit to general education, GT Pathways, major, and elective requirements; and
(e) Processes for informing students of available credit opportunities and for appealing credit determination decisions.

6.02 Standardized Examinations (AP/IB/CLEP/DSST)

6.02.01 Minimum Score Thresholds for GT Pathways Credit

Institutions shall award GT Pathways credit for:

1. AP examinations with a minimum score of 3
2. IB examinations with a minimum score of 4
3. CLEP examinations with a minimum score of 50, except World Languages.
4. DSST examinations with a minimum score of 400.

6.02.02 Exceptions for Exams Not Meeting GT Pathways Requirements

The Department, in collaboration with the institutions, may make exceptions in rare cases where the content of an exam may not meet GT Pathways requirements. These credit awards are posted on the Department's website.

6.02.03 Exams Validated by a Responsible Third Party

Credit awarded through standardized national exams shall be considered sufficiently validated when recorded on an official transcript by a Colorado public institution. Colorado public institutions shall accept official military exam scores as documented on an official document produced or endorsed by the U.S. Department of Defense.

6.02.04 Exam Scores Exceeding the Minimum Threshold

Institutions may use their existing processes to determine the amount of credit to award for AP scores higher than 3, IB (both SL & HL) scores higher than 4, CLEP scores higher than 50, and DSST scores higher than 400 but they must award at least 3 credits, or at least 4 credits for GT-SC1 (science courses with labs).

6.03 Portfolio Review

6.03.1 Transferability of Portfolio Credit

Any GT Pathways credit awarded by one institution based on a portfolio review shall be accepted in transfer and applied to GT Pathways requirements at any other Colorado public institution of higher education, regardless of the sending institution's portfolio review method.

6.03.02 Institutional Portfolio Review Processes

Institutions are responsible for developing portfolio review processes that support the award of GT Pathways credit when the demonstrated learning aligns with approved GT Pathways outcomes.

6.03.03 Validation of Portfolio Credit

Credit awarded for GT Pathways or a degree with designation through portfolio review shall be considered sufficiently validated when recorded on an official transcript by a Colorado public institution.

6.03.04 Application of Portfolio Credit

Students should consult individual institutions for specific guidance on Portfolio review processes, and GT alignment.

6.04 Military Learning

6.04.01 Student Notification

1. Institutions shall communicate to students the importance of submitting military documentation as part of the transfer and credit evaluation process and the potential impact of non-submission on credit award.
2. Students remain responsible for submitting available military documentation in a timely manner and responding to institutional requests related to credit evaluation.
3. Institutions shall maintain processes to ensure students with military experience receive information regarding opportunities to receive academic credit for military training, education, and experience and the potential application of such credit toward their educational goals. Such processes may include academic advising, orientation, admissions communications, military-affiliated student services, or other institutional practices.
4. Institutions shall implement consistent processes to inform students with military experience about opportunities to receive academic credit based on military training, education, and experience and to submit documentation for evaluation. Such processes may include:
    1. Providing clear information through admissions, orientation, onboarding, advising, veteran services, or other institutional communication channels;
    2. Communicating the types of documentation that may be submitted for evaluation, including Joint Services Transcripts and other recognized records;
    3. Directing students to available resources for obtaining military records; and
    4. Establishing clear institutional procedures for requesting evaluation of military learning.

6.04.02 Evaluation Standards

Institutions shall evaluate military training, education, and occupational experience using consistent and transparent standards. At a minimum, institutions shall:

1. Use admissions applications to identify military affiliation;
2. Review available records to determine eligibility for evaluation;
3. Maintain processes through admissions, onboarding, advising, or other institutional practices to inform students of opportunities to receive credit for military learning and to submit documentation for evaluation;

4. Use nationally recognized credit recommendations, such as those provided by the American Council on Education (ACE), as a consistent, primary reference point for determining credit equivalencies;
5. Establish clear institutional processes for evaluating military documentation and awarding credit; and
6. Ensure that evaluation practices are applied consistently across departments and programs.

6.04.03 Accepted Documentation

Institutions shall recognize official documentation of military training, education, or examination (e.g., JST, DANTES Subject Standardized Tests, Defense Language Proficiency Test, Coast Guard Academy transcript, Community College of the Air Force Air University transcript, DD-214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)

6.04.04 GT Pathways Credit Awards

Military and veteran students shall be awarded GT Pathways credit for military courses and occupations, as designated in tables posted on the Department's website.

6.04.05 Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) Credit Awards

1. Military and veteran students shall be awarded GT Pathways World Language credit (GT-AH4) for DLPT exams, as reflected on Joint Services Transcripts or official score reports.
2. Credit awards shall be based on proficiency levels as defined by the American Council on Education (ACE) and the Defense Language Institute.
3. Institutions shall:
    (a) Award credit in alignment with the recommended proficiency-based credit equivalencies associated with DLPT performance levels;
    (b) Apply such equivalencies consistently across programs and campuses; and
    (c) Not establish institutional practices that are more restrictive than the recognized proficiency-based recommendations.

6.04.06 Institutional Policies

Institutions shall maintain publicly available policies describing how military prior learning is evaluated, including:

(a) Types of documentation accepted;
(b) Evaluation criteria and methods;

(c) Alignment with standardized credit recommendations; and
(d) Appeal processes for students.

6.04.07 Military Credit Identification

1. Institutions shall ensure that credit awarded for military training, education, or examination is clearly identifiable in institutional records, including when aligned to GT Pathways.
2. Institutions shall ensure that academic credit awarded based on prior learning assessment for military training, education, or examination is clearly identifiable through transcripts, transfer evaluation systems, degree audit systems, or other official institutional records accessible to receiving institutions. Such military credit identification must enable receiving institutions to determine the source and nature of the credit without requiring resubmission of underlying documentation under normal circumstances.
3. Institutions shall adopt consistent internal practices for military credit identification to identify credit awarded for:
    (a) Military training,
    (b) Military examinations, and
    (c) Prior learning assessment related to military experience.
4. These practices shall be sufficiently clear to allow receiving institutions to interpret and apply such credit consistently across the state system.

6.04.08 Transferability Requirements

Institutions shall evaluate credit awarded for military training, education, or examination for alignment with GT Pathways content and competency criteria. When such alignment is determined, institutions shall designate and apply the credit as GT Pathways credit and ensure that the credit's military credit identification enables receiving institutions to recognize the basis for the award. When GT Pathways-aligned military credit is awarded by a Colorado public institution, receiving institutions shall accept and apply that credit in accordance with CCHE Statewide Transfer and GT Pathways Policy Section 8.01.

6.05 Course Challenge Options

6.05.01 Student Right to Challenge

1. Per §23-1-125(4), C.R.S., "…each public institution of higher education shall grant full course credits to students for the core [GT Pathways] courses they successfully test out of, free of tuition for those courses." Each public institution shall define a process for students to test out of GT Pathways courses,

"...including specifying use of a national test or the criteria for approving institutionally devised tests." If the student transfers, receiving institutions shall apply that credit to the appropriate GT Pathways category, even if the test out exam used was not one used by the receiving institution (CLEP, for example). Receiving institutions shall accept and apply course challenge credit awarded by a Colorado public institution when aligned with GT Pathways or Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement. Such credit shall not require re-evaluation by the receiving institution when awarded for GT Pathways requirements or a Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement.

2. Requesting a course challenge option is at the enrolled student's discretion.
3. Since the course challenge option applies to GT Pathways courses, students in degrees that do not contain the entire GT Pathways curriculum may not have the option to challenge all GT Pathways requirements. A list of baccalaureate degrees at Colorado institutions that have received waivers from the Commission and do not contain the full 31-credit GT Pathways curriculum is linked on the Department's website.

6.05.02 Institutional Limitations

Institutions, including instructors of the course and department chairs, shall not refuse the enrolled student's request, except that:

(a) Institutions may set their own policies in regard to allowing students to challenge courses in which they are currently enrolled or had been previously enrolled; and

(b) Institutions may set their own policies in regard to limiting the number of times students can attempt to challenge a course in one semester or in total.

6.05.03 Transcript Requirements

If the student earns the equivalent of a C- or better on an institutionally devised challenge exam, institutions shall transcript the credits as earned institutional credit and, at a minimum, include the name and number of the course, the number of institutional, and the GT Pathways category (if applicable), and note that it was a challenge exam.

6.05.04 National Examination Exceptions

If CLEP, DSST or another national exam is used to satisfy the test out option, then the above transcript formatting does not apply and the receiving institution should use the official source document from the testing company and refer to the

appropriate PLA table on the Department's website for guidance on how to apply that challenge exam credit.

6.05.05 Student Information Requirements

Institutions shall include in their catalog, post on their website, and provide to students through academic advising, course challenge policies and related information (such as fees).

6.05.06 Fees

Institutions may set their own fees for administering course challenge options but the fees shall be transparent and reflect actual costs, including faculty and staff time and any appropriately amortized infrastructure cost.

6.05.07 Residency Policies

Institutions may set their own policies in regard to counting course challenge credit as residency work.

7.00 Statewide Transfer Credit for Work-Related Experience

7.01 Legislative Basis

Per the legislative declaration in House Bill 20-1002, "students need additional rights for their work-related experience to be evaluated fairly for application toward a postsecondary credential" and "industry credentials should be evaluated for potential application toward a postsecondary credential with transferability among two-year and four-year institutions."

7.02 Definition of Work-Related Experience

Work-related experience is defined in §23-5-145.5(1)(f), C.R.S., as "experience acquired within the past ten years…that may lead to or result in a business credential, an industry credential, a technical certificate, or a professional license."

7.03 Eligible Credentials

For the purposes of this policy, work-related experience includes credentialed learning represented by an evaluated:

1. Industry credential
2. Professional license
3. Certificate from one of Colorado's area technical colleges
4. Completed apprenticeship registered with the United States Department of Labor

7.04 Ineligible Learning

For the purposes of this policy, work-related experience does not include learning that is not represented by an evaluated credential indicated above. For non-credentialed learning, institutions may choose to engage in individualized assessment and award credit based on a portfolio review, challenge exam, or some other means. Only credit awarded through this process that aligns with GT Pathways or a Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement shall be automatically transferable and shall not require re-evaluation by receiving institutions.

7.05 Statewide Evaluation Process

No later than the start of the 2022-23 academic year, the Department will publish on its website a process by which students who are enrolled or have been admitted to a state institution of higher education can request that their work-related experience is evaluated for potential alignment to the knowledge and competencies required for awarding postsecondary academic credit for courses in GT Pathways or a Statewide Degree Transfer Agreement. The process may also be available to other parties who have an interest in such evaluation, including industry groups, trade associations, employers, institutions of higher education, and other state government agencies. The Department may also nominate selected work-related experience for evaluation.

7.06 Evaluation Criteria

1. The process will be grounded in key principles of statutory compliance, transparency, responsiveness to students, equity, workforce connections, and depth and rigor in respect to the integrity of GT Pathways and statewide transfer frameworks.
2. The process may include criteria to determine whether or when to engage in evaluation of credentials, which could include alignment with specific workforce needs, alignment with quality standards identified by the National Skills Coalition or other groups, and the availability of sufficient staffing and financial resources at the Department or at selected higher education institutions or systems.

7.07 Faculty Review

The possible outcomes of an evaluation for compliance with statute can include a recommendation for statewide transfer or a recommendation of no statewide transfer equivalency.

7.07.01 GT Pathways Alignment

If the outcome of an initial evaluation by an institution or system is potential alignment with GT Pathways, the Department will convene representatives of faculty from across the state for review and consideration. If the result of the faculty review is recommendation for GT Pathways credit, the General Education Council may affirm the recommendation, including the specific GT Pathways category. The Department will then add the credential and the GT Pathways designation to credit tables posted on the Department's website.

7.07.02 STAA Alignment

If the outcome of an initial evaluation by an institution or system is potential alignment with a specific course within a Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement, the General Education Council will determine the scope of faculty consultation required (e.g., statewide faculty convening, consultation with discipline chairs). If the General Education council affirms the recommendation resulting from faculty review, the Department will add notation to the appropriate Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement and publish the information on the Department's website.

7.07.03 Duration of Equivalencies

Any equivalencies with GT Pathways or courses with a STAA are valid for three years from the date of affirmation by the General Education Council, unless reaffirmed by the Council for an extended period. Students who began an approved credential pathway before expiration of an equivalency shall remain eligible for any statewide transfer benefits associated with that equivalency, regardless of whether the equivalency is subsequently renewed. Credits received by students for work-related experience will remain valid and fully transferrable for ten years following transcription by an institution of said credit.

8.00 Student Information and Communication

8.01 Documentation Requirements

Institutions shall clearly communicate to students the documentation required for evaluation of prior learning assessment credit.

8.02 Missing Documentation Notifications

Institutions shall notify students of missing documentation and the potential impact on transfer and credit award.

8.03 Follow-Up Processes

Institutions shall maintain processes to follow up on missing documentation.

8.04 Reevaluation Procedures

Institutions shall ensure transfer decisions are based on available documentation (e.g., exam score documented on a transcript from a responsible third party) while preserving opportunity for reevaluation upon submission of additional or original materials.

9.00 Exceptions and Exemptions

9.01 Requests for Exemption

Institutions (system or individual campus) may petition commission to be exempt from portions of this prior learning assessment policy.

9.02 Required Evidence

To be granted an exemption, the institution must provide evidence, including data, that demonstrates that said portions of the policy would have an adverse effect on student success.

9.03 Student Notification Requirements

If the Commission approves the exemption, the institution must provide public notification to students (i.e. on their website) of the places in which the institution deviates from Colorado's prior learning assessment policy.

10.00 Data Collection and Evaluation

The department shall work with the institutions to evaluate PLA data and progress annually. The department should collect PLA data from IHE's and provide annual reporting to CCHE on the effect of PLA on student progression and completion. The department shall determine the PLA data elements and create an evaluation and reporting process. The department should use such data to inform any changes to the PLA policy.

11.00 Revision History

Date	Agenda Item	Action	CDHE Staff
5/8/2015	V, A	Approved an inclusive, phased process to establish a statewide PLA policy to ensure credits	Dr. Rhonda Epper and Dr. Ian MacGillivray

		awarded for prior learning are not lost in transfer and to support degree completion goals	
2/5/2016	IV, B	Aproved Phase 1, Goal 1 establishing common statewide minimum cut scores for AP (score of 3) and IB (score of 4) exams to fulfill GT Pathways general education requirements.	Dr. Russell Meyer and Dr. Ian MacGillivray
6/2/2016	IV, B	Approved recommendations for course challenge options (test-out options) and general transfer provisions under Phase 1, Goal 3.	Dr. Ian MacGillivray
5/4/2018	VI, A	Approved policy expansion implementing HB 17-1004 (military education/training on Joint Services Transcripts and DLPT exams) and establishing statewide cut scores for CLEP (score of 50).	Dr. Kim Poast
12/2/2021	III, A	Approved policy revisions and an implementation plan for HB 20-1002 to evaluate and award transferable GT Pathways or STAA college credit for work-related experience leading to a credential	Dr. Chris Rasmussen
10/22/2026	III, F	Comprehensive revision implementing recommendations from the Office of the State Auditor Higher Education Transfer Credit Audit, clarifying	Brad Griffith

Appendix A - Statutory Authority Detail

This policy is based on the following Colorado Revised Statutes:

- **§23-1-108.5(5), C.R.S.**, "All credits earned by a student in any general education course identified as corresponding with a course included in the course numbering system [GT Pathways] shall be automatically transferable among all higher education institutions upon transfer and enrollment of the student… The commission shall adopt such policies and guidelines as may be necessary for the implementation of this section. Each governing board shall modify its existing policies as may be necessary to accept the transfer of these credits."
- **§23-1-113.2(2), C.R.S.**, first-time freshman students who have successfully completed an international baccalaureate diploma program shall, at a minimum, be granted 24 semester credits, identified by the institution and that apply to the institution's general education or other degree requirements. An institution may only grant less than 24 semester credits or their equivalent if the student has received a score of less than four on an exam administered as part of the international baccalaureate diploma program.
- **§23-1-125(1), C.R.S.**, "(d) Students have a right to know which courses are transferable among the state public two-year and four-year institutions of higher education; (e) Students, upon completion of core general education courses, regardless of the delivery method, should have those courses satisfy the core course requirements of all Colorado public institutions of higher education; (f) Students have a right to know if courses from one or more public higher education institutions satisfy the students' degree requirements; (g) A student's credit for the completion of the core requirements and core courses shall not expire for ten years from the date of initial enrollment and shall be transferrable…" and §23-1-125(3), C.R.S., "The commission shall adopt such policies to ensure that institutions develop the most effective way to implement the transferability of core course [GT Pathways] credits."
- **§23-1-125(4), C.R.S.**, "Competency testing. On or before July 1, 2010, the commission shall, in consultation with each public institution of higher education, define a process for students to test out of core courses, including specifying use of a national test or the criteria for approving institutionally devised tests. Beginning in the 2010-11 academic year, each public institution of higher education shall grant full course credits to students for the core courses they successfully test out of, free of tuition for those courses."

- **§23-1-125(4.5), C.R.S.**, "Prior learning. Beginning in the 2013-14 academic year, each public institution of higher education shall adopt and make public a policy or program to determine academic credit for prior learning."
- **§23-5-145(2), C.R.S.**, "Beginning June 1, 2018, accept in transfer from within the institution and from other state institutions of higher education prior learning assessment credit awarded for courses with guaranteed-transfer designation, unless the Colorado commission on higher education adopts a new policy prior to June 1, 2018, concerning the transfer of prior learning assessment credit for courses with guaranteed-transfer designation that requires each campus to accept in transfer credit awarded by a state institution of higher education pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2)(a) of this section. Each campus may also accept other prior learning assessment credit toward the student's program of study if the credit meets standards established by the campus.
- **§23-1-108(7)(b)(II)(A), C.R.S.**, "A state institution of higher education that admits as a junior a student who holds an associate of arts degree, associate of applied science degree, or associate of science degree that is the subject of a statewide degree transfer agreement shall not require the student to complete any additional courses to fulfill general education requirements."
- **§23-5-145.5(3)(a), C.R.S.**, "On or before January 1, 2022, the [General Education] council, in collaboration with the commission, shall create, adopt, and implement a plan, referred to in this section as the "plan", to award postsecondary academic credit for courses in GT pathways or a statewide degree transfer agreement for learning demonstrated from work-related experience."
- **§23-5-145.5(7), C.R.S.**, "Beginning in the 2022-23 academic year, unless the plan is implemented prior to the beginning of the 2022-23 academic year, an institution shall accept in and transfer within the institution and to other institutions postsecondary academic credit awarded for work-related experience for a course that is GT pathways designated or part of a statewide degree transfer agreement.