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P6Hx23-4.28 PROCEDURE: ACCELERATION MECHANISMS

In order to accelerate student completion of degrees, credit may be accepted for transfer from the following sources in addition to instruction provided by the College: Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education Program (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB), College-Level Examination (CLEP), DSST (DANTES), Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT), Excelsior College Exams (UExcel); Assessment of Prior Learning/Experiential Learning Program (ELP); Career and Technical Education Articulation Agreements, and Correspondence or Extension Courses. The maximum amount of credit which may be accepted from exams is 45 credits (6A-10.024). The maximum amount of credit which may be accepted from all sources in combination must not exceed 75% of the program requirements. Credits awarded may be limited by program requirements.

In instances where students utilize only one source, the typical maximum amount of credit which may be accepted is as follows:

College-Level Examination Program	45 semester hours
Advanced Placement Examinations	45 semester hours
International Baccalaureate Program	30 semester hours
Assessment of Prior Learning/ Experiential Learning Program (ELP)	45 semester hours
Career and Technical Education Articulation Agreements	45 semester hours

I. College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

The College participates in the general examination program and the selected subject examination program. Decision as to acceptability of subject examinations is made by Academic Affairs, within the restrictions imposed by Paragraph 6A-14.031(1)(a), State Board of Education Regulations.

The acceptable examinations, minimum acceptable scores for each examination, the course(s) for which credit will be granted and the

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number of semester hours credit for each examination are published on the College's website and updated annually by the Office of Admissions & Records.

Score reports are transmitted by the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, N.J., to the Office of Admissions & Records.

The Office of Admissions & Records evaluates the test results and the equivalent courses for which credit has been granted are entered onto the student's course record. The percentile score (for general examinations) or the scaled score (for subject examinations) is also recorded.

II. Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement examinations are a special program of the College Entrance Examination Board offering special instruction to high school seniors.

The examination must have been taken while the student is still enrolled in high school.

Advanced Placement credit is treated as test credit. The procedures followed for the granting of credit are the same as those followed for the College-Level Examination Program.

Scores are reported to the College on a scale of 5 to 1, with 5 being the highest. Credit will be granted to students who achieve scores of 3, 4, or 5, on one or more of the Advanced Placement Program examinations. Such credits will be transferable to institutions of higher education within the State of Florida which participate in the State Advanced Placement Program. The acceptable examinations, minimum acceptable scores for each examination, the course(s) for which credit will be granted and the number of semester hours credit for each examination are published on the College's website and updated annually by the Office of Admissions & Records.

III. Early Admission

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Upon completion of the 11th grade, a public high school student who satisfies requirements stated on the Early Admission Application may enter St. Petersburg College.

The requirements for admission under this category are established by the Board of Trustees and are so stated in the catalog and on the Early Admission Application.

The application of a student applying for early admission is not processed until all required items (application, test scores, high school transcript, Early Admission Application) are complete.

The student is notified by letter of the action taken.

A student admitted under this category is a fully matriculated student, but without a high school diploma.

The Pinellas County School Board will award a diploma to the student at a later date if the student presents a transcript showing completion of 30 semester hours of satisfactory college work. The responsibility for applying for the diploma rests with the student. The College has no automatic procedure for notifying the high school.

Similar arrangements may be made by students accepted from schools outside Pinellas County. Such arrangements are between the student and the high school, and the College accepts no responsibility for notifying the school.

IV. International Baccalaureate

St. Petersburg College will grant college credit to a student who presents a score of 4, 5, or 6 on one or more of the International Baccalaureate examinations. Credit thus granted is transferable among Florida institutions of higher education participating in the statewide articulation agreement.

The acceptable examinations, minimum acceptable scores for each examination, the course(s) for which credit will be granted and the

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number of semester hours credit for each examination are published on the College’s website and updated annually by the Office of Admissions & Records.

V. Credit by Assessment of Prior Learning/Experiential Learning Program (ELP)

Credit may be awarded under this area for learning in a discipline or program area(s) offered by the College. The assessment of learning shall take place through means consistent with generally accepted techniques of measuring college-level learning. The techniques may include written and oral examinations, portfolio evaluations, interview assessments, and project or product evaluations. In addition, other methods of evaluation shall include use of ACE transcripts, the MOS Specialty Guide and the CAEL Guide. Such assessment shall certify levels of attainment consistent with the content and performance expectations established in the curriculum of the College for equivalent courses. Experiential Learning Program (ELP) replaces internal/challenge exams and other methods of evaluating and crediting prior learning.

The discipline program directors, by college-wide agreement, will determine which courses within the curriculum of the department may be eligible for assessment through experiential learning. Program directors will consult annually with advisory committees and discipline instructors to update the listing of courses eligible for assessment through the Experiential Learning Program. The College limits the credit earned through the Experiential Learning Program for Associate in Science and Certificate Programs to 50 percent of the core courses and/or courses within the major. If a student can demonstrate prior learning, the College will award credit for achievement rather than have the student repeat the learning sequence.

When the student has successfully completed an assessment of prior learning, credit is reported according to described procedures:

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- A. When the student completes the assessment, the ELP Office will notify the student of the outcome. A grade of "P" will be recorded for the course if credit is awarded.
- B. A student may not be registered for a course and be simultaneously evaluated for his/her prior learning of that course.

Pursuant to State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.054, matriculation and tuition fees shall not be charged for the assessment of prior learning or the awarding of credit based on prior learning, regardless of whether the prior learning was acquired through instruction provided by the College or through instruction or experience external to the College.

Students who are evaluated for the assessment of prior learning shall be charged a fee as prescribed in Board of Trustees' Rule 6Hx23-5.17 Student Fees.

VI. Career and Technical Education Articulation Agreements

Credit may be awarded to students via the following types of articulation agreements:

Pinellas County Schools agreements

Pinellas Technical College agreements

Statewide Career Pathways articulation agreements

Statewide Applied Technical Diploma (ATD) to AS/AAS agreements

Statewide Gold Standard Career Pathways Articulation of Industry Certification to AS/AAS Degrees agreements

Industry certification or credentialing agreements

Other workforce training program and provider agreements

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Tampa Bay Career Pathways Consortium agreement

Requirements for eligibility vary by articulation agreement. A complete list of articulation agreements, their eligibility requirements, and the application process is provided on the College's website. This is maintained by the Career Connections department.

No fees are assessed for credits awarded through articulation agreements. Students expecting to transfer articulated credits to another institution should be advised to become familiar with that institution's acceptance policy. Transfer of these credits to other institutions is not guaranteed.

Articulated credits are not typically considered as credit taken for residency purposes (Procedure P6Hx23-4.24). Credits articulated from sources outside of SPC programming will not be utilized to satisfy residency requirements. However, credits articulated from SPC programs may satisfy residency requirements. In addition, at the discretion of the dean, credits from articulation agreements may be used to supersede the requirement of completing 12 credits in a major for A.S. degrees at SPC.

VII. Military Credit

College credit or career education clock hours will be awarded for courses taken and occupations held by individuals during their service in the military. Credit will be awarded in accordance to the course equivalencies as determined by the statewide Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC). The course equivalency list is review and posted to the College's website on an annual basis by the Office of Admissions & Records.

The equivalent course will be posted to the student's academic record, unless (1) it would be advantageous to the student to award a specific course number with equal credit that satisfies program prerequisites or other requirements or (2) the College does not offer the equivalent course.

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VIII. Credits under this Procedure are awarded with a "P" grade and no quality points are assigned. Credit will not be awarded which is duplicative of credit awarded through any other accelerated mechanism, courses taken at St. Petersburg College, or courses received in transfer. However, if the course(s) for which credit is awarded under this Procedure has a previous grade of "F," the provisions of Procedure 6Hx23-4.15 will be applied.

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