

State of California

EDUCATION CODE

Section 78093.2

78093.2. (a) Building upon the California Mapping Articulated Pathways Initiative, the chancellor's office shall support the Credit for Prior Learning Initiative as a systemwide initiative to award credit for prior learning opportunities at each campus. The Credit for Prior Learning Initiative shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(1) Implementation and maintenance of a systemwide process to identify students who may qualify for credit for prior learning. This process shall include all of the following:

(A) (i) The collection and analysis of documents and information during the college exploration and admissions process about relevant prior learning experiences to inform potential students of program, college, and career opportunities and the potential to receive credit for prior learning.

(ii) The documents and information referenced in clause (i) may include industry certifications, military service, workplace training, and other sources of prior learning, including, but not limited to, Joint Services Transcripts for military learners, industry certifications and licenses for working learners and apprentices, standardized examination scores, high school articulated coursework, and portfolios.

(B) Early notification to students about credit for prior learning opportunities that is consistent with their educational goals.

(C) A system to refer students identified pursuant to this paragraph to appropriate college personnel for a credit for prior learning assessment.

(2) A statewide technology infrastructure developed and maintained to make credit for prior learning opportunities visible and accessible to the public.

(3) Support for California Community Colleges faculty discipline review groups to develop credit recommendations for awarding credit for prior learning that campuses may adopt systemwide.

(4) Support for partnerships with workforce agencies, industry organizations, and educational institutions to expand credit for prior learning opportunities consistent with this article.

(5) Enable, document, and validate skills and competencies earned through educational, workplace, military, and other experiences of prior learning.

(b) Each campus shall comply with both of the following:

(1) Before or upon completion of the education plans pursuant to Section 78212, evaluate prior learning documents and credentials of all incoming students for the assessment and award of credit for prior learning. Prior learning documents and credentials include, but are not limited to, Joint Services Transcripts for veterans,

reservists, and active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States, industry-recognized credentials of working learners and apprentices, portfolios for self-directed and experiential learners, and standardized assessments, including, but not limited to, advanced placement, international baccalaureate, and College-Level Examination Program assessments.

(2) Accept transcribed credit for prior learning from other campuses as credit, including for general education, transfer, and major preparation.

(c) (1) The California Community Colleges system, in partnership with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, shall collaborate with the Academic Senate of the California State University and other systemwide leadership of the California State University, and is encouraged to collaborate with the Academic Senate of the University of California and other systemwide leadership of the University of California to accomplish all of the following:

(A) Ensure that all campus-transcribed credit for prior learning is accepted as transfer credit, including for general education and major preparation.

(B) Participate in intersegmental alignment of credit for prior learning policies.

(C) Include credit for prior learning opportunities in published transfer pathways and, to the extent feasible, associate degree for transfer programs.

(2) To the extent that resources are available, the California Community Colleges system may collaborate with available and interested independent institutions of higher education.

(d) (1) Upon appropriation by the Legislature for purposes of this article, the chancellor's office shall allocate designated funds to support implementation of this article at each campus using all of the following goals:

(A) Increasing access to credit for prior learning opportunities equitably for all eligible students.

(B) Increasing completion through credit for prior learning awards.

(C) Advancing career attainment through credit for prior learning.

(D) Supporting credit for prior learning opportunities through the chancellor's office's pilot projects, such as the California Mapping Articulated Pathways Initiative.

(2) Each campus shall demonstrate that it has implemented the credit for prior learning initiative established pursuant to this article through the metrics described in paragraph (1) before receiving an allocation of funding for purposes of implementing this article.

(Added by Stats. 2026, Ch. 79, Sec. 16. (SB 135) Effective July 13, 2026.)