Credit for Prior Learning

Students may pursue credit for prior learning by documenting their learning through exams, portfolios, or transcripts from training programs and professional credentials that have undergone a credit review. Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) credit is awarded for learning at the "C" (2.0) level or higher for undergraduate courses and at the "B" (3.0) level or higher for graduate courses. CPL credit is typically transcripted with a grade of "P" for Pass with the equivalent course, credits, and source of the CPL noted on the student's College record. Exceptions concerning transcripted grades may be made in the case of non-collegiate training and instructional programs that have undergone a Connecticut Credit Assessment Program (CCAP) review and provide graded transcripts to Charter Oak. Unsuccessful attempts are not transcripted on the student's official College record. Information regarding if and how any CPL credit would apply toward a degree program can be obtained from Academic Counseling. Information about the processes involved to pursue PLA credit can be obtained from the CPL web pages and Office.

Undergraduate CPL Credit

Undergraduate students may receive an unlimited number of credits for prior learning, as long as it meets the requirements regarding source, method, and degree plan.

Graduate CPL Credit

Graduate students may receive up to six (6) credits for prior learning toward the Master of Science degree. The credit must be equivalent to the content offered in one of the required courses of the program.

Credit for Credentials

Students may request credit for the learning verified by a professional credential, certification, or license issued by a governmental agency or professional organization and obtained through a proctored qualification exam. Students are eligible to receive credit for credentials issued or valid during the effective dates, or validity period, for the credit recommendation. See the Credential Evaluation Program page for more information. Students should use the Portfolio Program to request credit for specific courses for learning verified by credentials that are not eligible for credit reviews.

Credit for Portfolios

Students may submit course-specific portfolios to request credit for credit-bearing courses taught at any regionally accredited institution of higher education. Credit is awarded for portfolios that demonstrate learning equivalent to having successfully completed an undergraduate course at the "C" (73%) level or higher or a graduate course at the "B" (83%) level or higher. See the Portfolio Assessment catalog page and the Portfolio Program page for more information.

Credit for Non-Collegiate Training and Instructional Programs

Students may request credit for successful completion of non-collegiate workforce training that has been reviewed for credit by the American Council on Education College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE Credit), Connecticut Credit Assessment Program (CCAP), or National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS). Students are eligible to receive credit for training successfully completed at the "C" (2.0) level or higher for undergraduate credit and "B" (3.0) level or higher for graduate credit during the effective dates, or validity period, for the credit recommendation. Students should use the Portfolio Program to request credit for specific courses for learning gained from non-collegiate training that has not been reviewed for credit.

Charter Oak State College reserves the right to limit or exclude the transfer of credit if the course content, assessment process, or student learning outcomes do not meet Charter Oak's faculty standards.